FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 NOVEMBER 1985

Lebanon

The West Beirut Coordination Committee intervened to stop fighting in Tallat al-Khayyat 20 November, Beirut radio reported. The Voice of Lebanon acknowledged that clashes had broken out in that area between Progressive Socialist Party fighters and Army personnel and claimed that Amal gunmen fought alongside the 6th Brigade. The Voice of Lebanon also stated that the Socialists occupied the television building in the area, but a "responsible source" cited by Beirut radio denied this.

Israel

The rapprochement between Jordan and Syria is driving possible Israeli-Jordanian peace negotiations further away, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir warned in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. He also denounced Egypt's conduct over the Ra's al-Burqa murders as a "blatant violation" of the peace treaty, asserting that Egypt must choose between maintaining the Camp David accords or going along with the PLO.

Egypt

Speaking at a press conference in Muscat, President Husni Mubarak stated that he has "no plans" for a trip to the USSR,adding that Egyptian-Soviet relations are "completely normal," MENA reported.

PLO

Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Baghdad 20 November to chair an Executive Committee meeting that is expected to convene 21 November, WAKH reported. After his arrival in Baghdad, the PLO chairman had talks with Soviet Foreign Ministry official Vladimir Polyakov, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

King Hassan Message to Reagan, Gorbachev

MAP carried the text of a message from Moroccan King Hassan II to the U.S. and Soviet leaders in which he noted that while the 1985 Casablanca Arab summit endorsed the 1982 Fes resolutions, it considered that the Fes resolutions "by no means exclude any other plans or projects" to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict provided that their objective is a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace.

Iranian Foreign Minister's Tour

Iran has made great efforts to bring the policies of Libya and Algeria closer together, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati disclosed in a statement to IRNA following a visit to Algiers and further talks with Libyan officials in Tripoli. Velayati's talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid covered bilateral relations, consolidating policies of "progressive" countries against "reactionaries," the Iran-Iraq war, and the forthcoming meeting of the Iranian, Syrian, and Libyan foreign ministers, IRNA noted.

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INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Minister on Security Agreement, Gulf Passport

GF201754 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Nov (WAKH) — Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has denied that the GCC countries have discarded the security agreement and replaced it with a security strategy.

In a statement published today in the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, he stated that the security agreement is still being considered by the GCC interior ministers and that a preparatory committee comprised of the Interior Ministry under secretaries has been formed to prepare studies and views on the security strategy — about which a resolution was adopted at the sixth GCC summit held in Muscat early this month.

Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz noted that the GCC interior ministers did not arrive at an agreement on issuing uniform passports to GCC citizens, but agreed to define the quality and markings on the passports.

Voice of the GCC Radio To Continue Broadcasting

LD201630 Kuwait KUNA in English 0912 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Riyadh, Nov 20 (KUNA) — Senior radio officials in member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) ended here last night their first conference which was held at the level of assistant undersecretaries.

Hailing the Voice of the GCC radio, currently transmitting from Bahrain, the meeting emphasized the secretariat's determination to continue supporting the Voice of the GCC.

The participants agreed on the Voice of the GCC to continue broadcasting for 18 months, with three months from each state starting with Kuwait from January 1986, daily from 7.00-9.00 hours GMT.

The conference which is to map out media exchange among their six states including Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman, agreed on exerting more efforts to promote inter-exchange among Gulf broadcasts, and agreed on the exchange of announcers among the members states from the beginning of the new year.

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent Returns To Manama From Oman

GF201337 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 20 Nov (WAKH) — Shaykh Hamad ibn 'isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahraini Defense Force, returned to Manama from Muscat at noon today after a 4-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman, during which he participated in celebrations marking the 15th anniversary of Oman's national day.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Arrives for 2-Day Visit

GF201112 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0955 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Manama, 20 Nov (WAKH) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Manama today on a 2-day visit to Bahrain.

During the visit, 'Aziz will hold talks with Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister, who received him on his arrival. The talks will deal with bilateral relations and ways of promoting them; Gulf, Arab, and international issues; and other issues of mutual interest.

Delivers Message to Amir

GF201244 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1105 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Manama, 20 Nov (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received an oral message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn concerning bilateral relations and current developments in the region.

The message was conveyed by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, during his meeting with his highness the amir of Bahrain today.

During the meeting, which was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister, they reviewed bilateral relations and a number of issues of mutual interest.

'Aziz arrived in Manama earlier today on a 2-day visit to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

PRC Vice Premier Yao Yilin Arrives, Views Relations

LD211017 Kuwait KUNA in English 0900 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 21 (KUNA) — Chinese Vice Premier for Economic Affairs Yao Yilin arrived here early Thursday on his first visit to Kuwait aiming at strengthening bilateral cooperation.

In an arrival statement, Yao Yilin expressed to KUNA his country's satisfaction on the ten-year-old Chinese-Kuwait relations which he hoped to develop in the future.

The Chinese official indicated that he may sign with Kuwaiti officials an agreement for investment protection in the two countries if the documents of this agreement are agreed on by both parties during his four-day stay here.

Yilin has also expressed hope to exchange opinion with Kuwaiti officials on a number of topics in different fields in order to boost cooperation.

During his visit to the country which came following visits to Oman and UAE, the Chinese official is scheduled to meet with H.H. The Amir Sheikh Jabir al-Ahmad, Kuwait National

Assembly SPeaker Ahmad al-'Sa'dun, H.H. The Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'd al-'Abdallah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad.

Meanwhile, Yilin is also scheduled on Saturday to hold talks with Finance and Economy Minister Jassim M. al-Kharafi. Yilin will leave on Sunday.

He and the delegation accompanying him were received at the airport this morning by Finance and Economy Minister al-Kharafi, Finance Undersecretary 'Abd al-Muhsin al-Huna'if and the Chinese Ambassador to Kuwait Yang Fuchang.

S. Korean Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks
LD201351 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 20 nov (KUNA) — South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong arrived here today for a 4-day official visit. He was welcomed on his arrival from the Sultanate of Oman by Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Acting Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Khalid Muhammad Ja'far, a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials, and the Korean ambassador to Kuwait.

In a statement on arrival, the Korean minister expressed his happiness at visiting Kuwait at the invitation of Shaykh al-Sabah. He said that during the visit he will exchange views with senior Kuwaiti officials on issues of joint interest.

He praised the existing amicable relations between the two countries and expressed the hope that an end will be put to the Iraq-Iran war as soon as possible.

He also expressed his hope that a peaceful settlement will be reached in the Middle East crisis, and described the situation in the Middle East as affecting world peace to a great extent.

Foreign Minister Receives Iraqi Counterpart
LD201730 Kuwait KUNA in English 1320 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 20 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Wednesday discussed with his Iraqi counterpart Tariq Aziz bilateral relations and other issues of mutual concern.

Shaykh Sabah said the Iraqi deputy premier and foreign minister made a brief stopover here on his way to Manama today at the invitation of Bahrain's Foreign Minister Shaykh Mohammed ibn Mubarak al-Khalifah.

Foreign Minister Receives Japanese Premier's Envoy
LD201634 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Nov (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, conferred this morning with the Japanese prime minister's envoy, (Masayuki Fuji).

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told the press that Mr (Fuji) handed him a message addressed to his highness the amir from the Japanese prime minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone. He also conveyed the greetings of Mr Nakasone to the amir, and the heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah.

The japanese ambassador to Kuwait, Jiro Aiko stated that Mr (Fuji) and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad discussed relations between the two countries and ways to consolidate cooperation. They also discussed the situation in the region, especially developments in the Iraq-Iran war, and the Middle East issue. He stressed that Japan will continue its efforts to find a peaceful and quick end to this war.

The ambassador pointed out that Mr (Fuji) visited Kuwait 16 years ago when he was deputy prime minister for industrial affairs. He expressed his great admiration for the huge progress Kuwait has made at all levels.

Mr (Fuji) and the members of the accompanying delegation attended a luncheon today at the Hilton Hotel, given by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad in honor of Mr (Fuji) and the visiting South Korean foreign minister.

OMAN

Egypt's Mubarak Holds News Conference in Muscat
NC201248 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 20 nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a news conference today at his residence in Al-Bustan Palace which was attended by representatives of the OMAN NEWS AGENCY and other media. The president talked about current Arab and international issues.

The president began his news conference by congratulating the Sultanate of Oman and its leader, Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, on the 15th anniversary of Oman's national day and on the country's great renaissance under the sultan's leadership. The president said: I have been following this great progress year after year through my many visits to the Sultanate since 1976.

On the unique relations between Egypt and the Sultanate of Oman, President Husni Mubarak said: I am always consulting with my brother, His Majesty Sultan Qabus, on many questions, including the Middle East problem. I always brief him on any new developments. We consult each other so that his majesty will always be informed and up to date. His excellency added: We talked about our friendly relations. These are always good and we trust they will grow and develop constantly. This is our hope and the hope of the Egyptian and Omani people.

Asked about the possibility of restoring Egypt's relations with other Arab countries, President Mubarak said: Egypt is an Arab country. It is not in need of an identity [ta'rif]; it never has had and never will. Egypt has a pan-Arab responsibility which it is shouldering. Regarding the Palestinian issue, the reason relations were suspended, he said Egypt has not hesitated to support and help the Palestinians throughout the various stages. It will

not hesitate to do so in the future just as it has done in the past. He added: Every person has his own dignity and self-esteem.

The president asked: Where are the unilateral solutions? Where is the renunciation [inkimash] of the Palestinian issue? The Palestinian leadership was in Egypt last week; what is the excuse then? He said: Egypt has made its decision. It has not hesitated in supporting Arab issues regardless of events in the Arab world and never will.

Regarding U.S. aid to Egypt and whether this will tip the balance in Egyptian policy, particularly since Egypt continues to adhere to nonalignment, President Mubarak said: Our will is in our hands. No one, not even the superpowers, can take it from us. The fact that we receive aid from the United States does not mean that we are a U.S. satellite. We are not the satellite of any country from which we get assistance. His excellency added: We can differentiate between what is useful and what is not. If we receive aid from the United States and we have good relations, it does not mean that the United States possesses our souls or that it makes decisions for us. We can see that the United States feels its plan to be in the general interest. We are not biased, since we also have relations with the Soviet Union.

President Mubarak wondered what makes some people think we are subservient. His excellency said: We are a developing country and we must strengthen our Armed Forces in order to maintain their status. If we want to obtain weapons, we must buy them from one of the two superpowers or from other European states.

His excellency noted: There is not a single country in the world that does not deal with either one of the two superpowers. We receive aid from the United States, but in no way does America buy our will with this assistance.

When asked if he will visit the Soviet Union, President Mubarak replied that he has no plans for such a trip, and that Egyptian-Soviet relations are completely normal. President Mubarak said: I sent a message to the Soviet leader before his summit meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, which is now taking place in Geneva.

As for military cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and Egypt, particularly as far as arms supplies are concerned, President Mubarak declared: We do not hesitate to meet any Omani request for the military equipment it needs. President Mubarak pointed out that Egypt's military production program is coming along quite well. He noted that Egypt not only produces ammunition and advanced equipment, but modernizes its existing materiel as well.

His excellency added: We in Egypt are always prepared to assist any Arab state in need of modern equipment, for we consider Egypt to be the country of every Arab. We welcome any Arab or Arab request in Egypt.

While responding to a question on freezing the Camp David accords and not abrogating them, President Mubarak said: Those who talk about the Camp David agreement do not understand its meaning. What are the Camp David accords? They include two documents. One deals with Egyptian-Israeli relations for the purpose of regaining our land. This concerns peace between Egypt and Israel, and we exchanged ambassadors on this basis.

His excellency noted: Under the terms of this agreement, we were able to recover our oil, reopen the Suez Canal, and repossess the coal and mineral mines in the Sinai. We were able to regain our land.

According to President Mubarak, the second paper covers all aspects of the Palestinian issue. This was the first, last, and only document that Israel signed and it thus committed itself to resolving the Palestinian issue. The Israelis have not signed any other document because they regretted putting their names to this one.

His excellency added that there was an extensive discussion of this issue until 1981. Once Israel realized that these talks were serious, it began to change its view of Camp David. Camp David was frozen and has now become a historical document. The president said it would be foolish to cancel the Camp David agreement. Israel would be very happy if we did that, because this accord is an obligation for it and can be used at any time.

Speaking about the Gulf war and current efforts to end it, President Mubarak said: As Arab states we all call for a halt to this war. In this respect, he noted the joint defense pact signed by all Arab states. He added: It would be reasonable to support a non-Arab state against an Arab state that had signed the joint defense pact. The president then asked: Why, then, did everybody inquire about Egypt's stand on the joint defense pact when it signed the peace treaty? The president emphasized that Egypt never gave up its international commitments after it signed the peace treaty, and that it has not abandoned the joint defense pact. The president ruled out any possibility of ending the Gulf war in the absence of a unified Arab stand. He added: We have to repair ourselves first. President Mubarak called on both Iraq and Iran to end the war and stanch its costly wounds.

Commenting on the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement, President Mubarak expressed hopes that the relationship between Syria and Jordan is genuine, sincere, and in the public interest. In this respect, he noted King Husayn's efforts to bring the two countries closer together.

Regarding the U.S.-Soviet summit under way in Geneva, President Mubarak said: I do not expect them to arrive at any decisions at this point. However, he said, it is good for the leaders of the two superpowers to meet and discuss issues of common interest such as armament and "star wars," and then to turn to other subsidiary matters such as the Middle East issue.

Comments on Al-Qadhdhafi Proposal

NC201309 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak held a news conference this morning with representatives of the press, radio, television, and

news agencies in Oman. He discussed a number of current Arab and international issues.

On Egyptian-Libyan relations, President Mubarak said: Colonel al-Qadhdhafi asked me to meet him at the border, in one of the nonaligned countries, or secretly. I agreed to all his requests but he did not do anything.

Talks With Editors in Muscat

NC201134 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0935 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 20 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met today with the chief editors of Egyptian newspapers at his place of residence in Muscat's Al-Bustan Palace.

At the session, the president reviewed the talks held during his meetings with the heads of delegations attending the celebrations of Oman's National Day. He said that he used these meetings to explain Egypt's point of view on various Arab and international issues. President Mubarak also briefed other leaders on the way in which Egypt is doing its pan-Arab duty on all Arab questions, with emphasis on the Middle East problem. In addition, he examined Egypt's constant efforts to find a just and comprehensive solution for the Palestinians.

President Mubarak analyzed the PLO's position on the basis of his excellency's talks with Yasir 'Arafat during the latter's recent visit to Egypt at the head of a PLO delegation. Special emphasis was placed on the Cairo Declaration, which the PLO chairman announced during that trip.

In his meeting with the chief editors, the president dealt with reports on the restoration of Arab-Egyptian relations. He said that Egypt's stand on this issue calls for nothing more than welcoming anyone who wants to resume ties with Egypt. Mubarak added that Egypt's only concern is to fulfill its pan-Arab obligations, foremost of which is the Palestinian issue. He noted that Egypt will not hesitate to support this cause in its various stages of development no matter what happens.

President Mubarak shed some light on Egypt's domestic situation. He emphasized that the implementation of what he said in his recent speech to the joint session of the People's Assembly and Consultative Council will continue until the hopes of the masses are realized. He pointed out that he will meet with the ministers concerned to draw up plans for following up and implementing the contents of his speech and discovering a sound basis for continuing this process.

His excellency reported that the government will pay a great deal of attention to eliminating the obstacles facing Egyptian and foreign investment. He also declared that he will be visiting a number of productive villages [al-qura al-muntijah] to urge them to improve their performance and to encourage other villages to play their role in production.

Departs Muscat

NC201154 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 20 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Muscat for Cairo at 1500 local time today at the end of his 4-day official visit to the Sultanate of Oman. During his stay, he attended the Sultanate's celebrations of the 15th anniversary of its national day.

The president was seen off at the Sultan's private airport by His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, members of the ruling family, deputy prime ministers, ministers, senior state officials, and Egypt's Ambassador in Muscat Fathallah al-Dal'i.

PRC Official on Ties with Israel, GCC Countries

GF201953 Doha QNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 20 Nov (WAKH) — Yao Yilin, PRC vice premier of the State Council, has expressed his country's appreciation for the Gulf coordination march within the framework of the GCC. He said: We support the Gulf states' efforts to achieve joint development and collective security through unity and self-reliance. The PRC official, currently visiting the Sultanate of Oman, affirmed his country's support for the Palestinian people's cause, which is the core of the Middle East problem. He stated that without solving the Palestinian problem, peace cannot be achieved in the Middle East.

Yao Yilin added: The PLO, as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, has the right to participate in solving the Middle East problem as an equal to the other participants. He emphasized the importance of Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 so that the national rights of the Palestinian people will be regained, including their right to establish an independent state. He added that all countries in the Middle East have the right to exist and be independent.

In a statement to QNA, Yao Yilin said: The best solution for the Middle East problem would be achieved through a just and logical settlement resulting from peaceful negotiations. He expressed the PRC's support for convening an international conference for peace in the region under the auspices of the United Nations. He stressed that the PRC Government and people support the Arab countries and the Palestinian people in their just struggle and strongly condemn all of the barbaric crimes committed by Israeli authorities against the Palestinians.

In his interview, Yao Yilin again denied reports on the existence of military cooperation between Israel and the PRC. He added: Such reports are rumors designed to undermine the cordial relations between the PRC and the Arabs. The PRC Government has repeatedly announced that it will not establish relations with Israel, which still occupies Arab territory and refuses to recognize the PLO and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Responding to another question, Yao Yilin stated that his country wishes to establish and develop relations with the various countries of the world based on respect for sovereignty, independence, nonaggression, and noninterference in the internal affairs of one another; mutual interests; and peaceful coexistence. He

added: Our efforts to develop relations in various fields with the Gulf countries — which have not yet established relations with us — meet the desires and interests of these countries.

King Husayn, Austria's Gratz Talk in Muscat
AU201123 Vienna WIENER ZIETUNG in German 20 Nov 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Muscat — The right answer to the escalation of force is an intensification of peace efforts in the Middle East — this was the concurrent view of Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz and Jordanian King Husayn in a talk in Muscat, the capital of Oman.

King Husayn informed Foreign Minister Gratz about his latest talks on settling the Middle East conflict, and stressed the importance of an international Middle East conference with the participation of all permanent UN Security Council members. Foreign Minister Gratz reaffirmed the Austrian Government's support for King Husayn's peace initiative. Austria is ready to continue — wherever necessary — to advocate understanding for these proposals and to stress the urgency of finding a solution to the Middle East problem, Gratz said.

Saudi Prince, Pakistani President Meet in Muscat
GF201101 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, today visited his brother, His Excellency Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in Al-Bustan Palace in Oman.

The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by the delegation accompanying his highness the crown prince, and the Saudi ambassador in Muscat.

Sultan Qabus Receives Ceremony Delegations
GF201510 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus today separately received at the Al-'Alam al-'Amir Palace Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan, deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces and Abu Dhabi heir apparent; Qatari Education Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hamad Al Thani; and GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah. His majesty decorated Bisharah with the Sultan Qabus Medal of the First Order.

Sultan Qabus also received Djibouti Prime Minister Barakat Gourad Hamadou who handed his majesty a message from Djibouti President Hassan Gouled on bilateral relations; Yao Yilin, PRC vice premier of the State Council, who handed a message to his majesty from the PRC president inviting him to visit the PRC; and Salim Ahmad Salim, Tanzanian deputy prime minister and minister of defense and national service.

Foreign Minister Receives PDRY Official
GF201552 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received at the Foreign Ministry Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee and PDRY minister of transport. They discussed bilateral relations and the PDRY minister conveyed greetings from PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali to Yusuf al-'Alawi, who was invited anew to visit the PDRY as soon as possible.

Leaders Depart Following National Day Ceremonies
GF201315 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Pakistani President Ziaul Haq; Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom; Egyptian President Husni Mubarak; and General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, left the country today following the Sultanate's glorious national day celebrations.

QATAR

Amir Visits France, Meets With Mitterrand

For Paris reportage of the visit to France by Qatari Amir AlThani, including his meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 21 November Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Returns From Muscat 20 Nov
GF201241 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, arrived in the western district this afternoon to spend some time there after returning from the Sultanate of Oman. He had participated in the 15th anniversary celebrations of the Sultanate.

UAE

Delegation Returns To Abu Dhabi From Muscat
GF201717 Manama WAKH in English 1620 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov 20 (WAKH) — Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid returned home today from Muscat after participating in the celebrations marking the 15th anniversary of the Omani national day.

Also returning with Shaykh Khalifah was the accompanying delegation including Ahmad Khalifah al-Suwaydi representative

of the president, Khalfan al-Rumi, minister of labor and social affairs, Sa'id al-Darmaki, chief of protocol, 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Dhahiri, member of the Executive Council and undersecretary at Shaykh Khalifah's court and 'Ali ibn Khalfan al-Dhaniri, head of the Civil Aviation Department.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Receives Omani, Japanese Envoys

GF201401 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, received a copy of the credentials of Brother 'Abdallah ibn Ahmad ibn Salim al-Marhun as Omani non-resident ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the PDRY.

This took place during the foreign minister's meeting with the ambassador in his office today. During the meeting, bilateral relations and the means to develop them were discussed.

Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali also received a copy of the credentials of (Ehita Heko Okazaki), as non-resident Japanese ambassador to the PDRY. This took place during his meeting with the Japanese ambassador in his office today. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations and the means to develop them.

YAR

Talks Held With Tunisian Officials 19 Nov

GF201120 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The first session of talks between the YAR and fraternal Tunisia was held in Sanaa last night. The talks were chaired by brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the standing committee; and brother Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and interior minister.

At the beginning of the session, brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani welcomed brother Mohamed Mzali and the delegation accompanying him. He said: It is a great occasion to receive you as dear guests in your second homeland, nay, your first homeland. I am happy at this meeting which will discuss a number of bilateral issues, issues of concern to the Arab nation, and also international issues of mutual concern.

The brother prime minister and member of the standing committee affirmed that the aim of this meeting is to lay the foundation to strengthen fraternal relations between the two fraternal peoples in new fields which will consolidate and strengthen their fraternal ties.

He lauded the great steps that have been taken by fraternal Tunisia under the leadership of the great struggler, His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, and through the efforts of the Tunisian leaders who struggled a great deal to achieve independence. He said: We in the YAR look with admiration on what Tunisia has achieved in its economic, social, political, cultural, and other fields. He indicated that the YAR might benefit from these steps.

The brother prime minister and member of the standing committee said that the visit of brother Mohamed Mzali and the delegation accompanying him to our country will provide an opportunity for them to view some aspects of the growth, development, and progress achieved thanks to the 26 September immortal revolution, which destroyed the defunct imam's rule, particularly the great achievements that our country has made during the years of stability in which it has been living under the aegis of the leadership of the brother leader President Secretary general Colonel 'Ali 'Abdllah Salih.

He expressed hope that this visit will be the beginning of future visits and meetings. He affirmed that such meetings will succeed and embody the Arab peoples' hope for unity and for bolstering their interests by creating strong ties and strong foundations which will embody that to which we actually aspire.

Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani referred to cooperation between the YAR and Tunisia. He said: We hope that this cooperation will be a model for cooperation among the Arab countries.

Brother Mohamed Mzali expressed his happiness and that of the delegation accompanying him at visiting our country. He expressed gratitude for the warm welcome. He said that this visit will increase cooperation between the two fraternal countries to high levels for the good of the interests of both the Yemeni and Tunisian peoples and the Arab nation in various fields.

The Tunisian prime minister and interior minister said that, thanks to the directions of brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress; and the great sruggler Habib Bourguiba, president of Tunisia, the two countries will establish a model of cooperation which will serve the two peoples' insterest and aspirations. He expressed confidence that the close fraternal ties between the two countries in all fields, and their tendency toward development and growth, are making quick steps forward, in view of the fact that they share views on all levels.

During the session of talks, they reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries in various fields and ways of promoting them, in addition to reviewing Arab and international issues of mutual interest.

The session was attended by the members of the YAR and Tunisian sides.

Agreements Signed

GF201714 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Summary] Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani today attended the

signing of a number of joint cooperation agreements. An air transport agreement was signed today which establishes transport airlines between Sanaa and Tunis.

The executive program for information media cooperation was also signed today. This provides for preparing executive programs for cooperation between the two countries in the cultural and media fields in addition to the exchange of information and documents and taking part in book fairs. The economic, technical, cultural, and scientific agreement signed in Sanaa and Tunis in April was ratified.

Delegation Departs

GF201420 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] His Excellency Brother Mohamed Mzali, the prime minister and the interior minister of the fraternal Republic of Tunisia, and the accompanying delegation, left Sanaa International Airport at 1300 [1000 GMT] today after concluding an official 2-day visit at the invitation of brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the standing committee.

Mubarak Returns to Cairo From Oman 20 Nov

NC201618 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak returned to Cairo from Muscat today following the completion of his official 4-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman. During his visit, President Mubarak participated in the celebrations marking the Sultanate's 15th anniversary of its National Day.

President Mubarak was met at Cairo Airport by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi, and a number of ministers and high-ranking civilian and military officials. Omani Ambassador in Cairo 'Abdallah al-Najjar was also there to meet him.

In a statement to journalists at the airport, President Mubarak said that the purpose of his visit to the Sultanate of Oman was to congratulate the Omani people and Sultan Qabus on the 15th anniversary of Oman's national day.

Asked whether he would agree to meet with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, President Mubarak said: If he asks to meet with me, I will think about it before I make my decision.

In response to another question, President Mubarak described Egypt's relations with the Gulf states as normal. He added that during his stay in Oman he had met with the heads of governments and heads of delegations of these states.

On the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations, President Mubarak said: This question does not bother me much.

President on Restoration of Relations With Arabs

GF201038 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Nov (WAKH) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has said that his meetings with a number of Arab leaders and officials in Muscat were aimed at bolstering Arab solidarity and emerging from the state of despair in which the Arab world is living at present.

In an interview with the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published in Abu Dhabi today and with the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH*, he said that the next few days will witness developments in connection with the restoration of diplomatic relations between the Arab countries and Egypt. He said that other relations exist and are constantly developing.

The Egyptian president said that Egypt has dignity and will not run after anybody. However, the countries which severed relations with it must restore them.

The Egyptian president lauded the Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement and said that it strengthens Arab solidarity, on condition that it does not take place at the expense of the Palestinian cause.

He said that the Gorbachev-Reagan summit will not have important results with regard to the Arabs. However, he said, the improvement of relations between East and West will benefit the Arabs and the whole world.

Mubarak Says Al-Qadhdhafi Messages 'Old'

NC201908 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] President Husni Mubarak returned home from Muscat this evening after participating in the celebrations for the 15th anniversary of the Sultanate of Oman's national day. He was met at the airport by the prime minister, the People's Assembly speaker, the Consultative Council speaker, the deputy prime ministers, and other ministers.

When asked by journalists whether he had received any messages from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, President Mubarak said that he had received several oral messages from Al-Qadhdhafi but that these messages are old. Asked whether he would agree to meet with Al-Qadhdhafi, President Mubarak said that he would think about this subject before making any decision.

'Abd al-Majid Remarks

NC201946 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, replied to correspondents' questions upon his arrival in Cairo from muscat. When asked whether President Husni Mubarak is willing to meet with Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: President Mubarak may receive Al-Qadhdhafi. However, Al-Qadhdhafi has not taken a single step forward. Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that the messages which President Mubarak had received from Al-Qadhdhafi on this are not new.

Referring to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's stand on the improvement of relations between Syria and Jordan, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: I believe that we will support any improvement in their relations, as long as it is in the interest of both countries.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added: We are positive that Jordan bears a certain responsibility toward Yasir 'Arafat, and that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is still valid. Therefore, we do not see any contradiction between the two issues Dr 'Abd al-Majid added: I do not believe that the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement will be at 'Arafat's expense.

To a question on whether it would be possible to remove all obstacles if the PLO accepted UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: We hope so. Let us see what happens first, then all obstacles will be overcome, God willing.

FRG Bundestag Speaker Concludes Official Visit

NC200957 Cairo MENA in English 0945 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — Speaker of the German parliament (Bundestag) left here today for Luxor on a two-day private

visit at the end of a three-day official visit at the invitation of the People's Assembly.

In a predeparture statement the German parliamentarian said his visit aimed at resuming dialogue with the People's Assembly officials and getting acquainted with Egypt's efforts to counter its economic difficulties.

The German parliamentarian held talks with Prime Minister Dr. 'Ali Lutfi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture Dr Yusuf Wali, Minister of Economy Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali and Minister of Higher Education Dr Fathi Muhammad.

Meanwhile Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, speaker of the People's Assembly who saw off the German official at the airport said the talks of the German delegation were fruitful and convered economic and political relations between Egypt and the FRG. He added talks also dealt with world peace and Middle East cause.

Ghali Confers With Ambassadors From Africa

NC201900 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Nov (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met with the ambassadors and heads of the African diplomatic missions accredited in Cairo this evening. The meeting was attended by Ahmad Sidqi, director of the African Department in the Foreign Ministry.

During his meeting with the African ambassadors, Ghali reviewed the recent developments in the Middle East situation, particularly in light of the Cairo Declaration, which was issued during the visit of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, as well as Egyptian diplomatic moves to give impetus to the peace process.

In this connection, Dr Butrus Ghali referred to the Egyptian Government and people's celebration of the international day for solidarity with the Palestinian people on 29 November. He stressed Egypt's total commitment to support all efforts which aim at achieving a peaceful solution in the region.

Dr Ghali also reviewed the outcome of his recent African tour, which included Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. He affirmed Egypt's continued support of OAU efforts and its constant attempts to broaden economic, cultural, and technical cooperation between Egypt and the countries of the continent.

Abu Ghazalah on Military Modernization

NC200936 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has praised the endurance and bravery of the Iraqi Army and people. In an interview with the Iraqi paper *ALIF BA'*, which will be published on 20 November, Abu Ghazalah expressed hope that peace will be restored to the Gulf and that Iran will agree to a negotiated settlement of the conflict. He also noted that Egypt, as an Arab country, has done its duty to Iraq.

When asked about Egypt's military strength, Abu Ghazalah replied that its power has been developing both in terms of quantity and quality since the October 1973 war. Weaponry, training, military thought, and the systems of command and control, intelligence, and administration have all been improved. He added: We can say that there has been a quantum leap in all fields. For instance, we have introduced computers everywhere: in command and control, administration, and military education. We have also raised the level of our weapons systems from manual or semi-automatic to integrated, coordinated, and fully automatic. We have modernized our defense systems, but this change in quality did not come at the expense of quantity.

When asked about military industries and the need to manufacture weapons, Abu Ghazalah replied: We are always trying to enter new fields of military production. We are also trying to improve the weapons we have. As an example, we manufactured our first Tucano training planes in July. This is above and beyond our production of the Alpha jet and the Hil Gazelle.

As far as armored vehicles are concerned, Abu Ghazalah noted that we are producing [words indistinct] Alpha armored vehicle. We are also trying to improve the [word indistinct] tanks by increasing their firepower and by modernizing both their fire control systems and their maneuvering capabilities.

As for rockets, Abu Ghazalah said that we are turning out 123-mm rocket shells [words indistinct]. We also manufacture the "Saqr-30," the anti-tank "Swingfire," the shoulder-borne "Ayn al-Saqr" antiaircraft rocket, as well as the [word indistinct] guns, which we are trying to modify for installation on tracked vehicles.

On the subject of weapons production by the Arab states, Abu Ghazalah said: We believe this must happen. It would not be difficult to establish an Arab military industry in cooperation with other countries, if we, the Arabs, wanted to. However, this can only be done if the Arabs pool their human, technical, and financial resources. As a matter of fact, the products of such an industry would be cheaper than those of the West, for wages are lower in our countries.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah concluded: The Arabs should be fully aware of the need for an Arab weapons industry. We could follow the example set by the Western countries, which have set up joint ventures to produce every kind of weapon, plane, armored vehicle, rocket, and so on.

'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad To Chair PLO Meeting

GF201645 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Nov (WAKH) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Baghdad today on a visit to Iraq to chair the meeting of PLO Executive Committee.

Palestinian sources said the committee, which is expected to meet tomorrow, will discuss the situation in the occupied lands and latest developments at the Arab arena. In its third meeting in Baghdad, the committee will also discuss the outcome of Mr. 'Arafat's talks held in Amman, Cairo, and New Delhi and future moves.

Meets With USSR's Polyakov

JN201832 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] An authoritative Palestinian source in Amman has said that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat met in Baghdad for 3 hours today with Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Fatah Central Committee members Faruq Qaddumi and Salah Khalaf attended the meeting. Yasir 'Arafat will preside over PLO Executive Committee and PLO Central Council meetings in Baghdad.

Talks Detailed

JN202116 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 20 Nov 85

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat today met for 4 hours in Baghdad with Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Fatah Central Committee members Faruq Qaddumi, known as Abu al-Lutf, and Salah Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, attended the meeting.

An informed Palestinian source described the talks as cordial. He added that the Palestinian leader discussed relations between the PLO and the Soviet Union with the Soviet official as well as the latest developments in the Middle East and the changes that have taken place in the international arena vis-a-vis the Palestine question. The talks also dealt with the situation in Lebanon, particularly in the Palestinian camps, the Israeli raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis, and the interception of the Egyptian airliner which was carrying the hijackers of the Italian ship *Achille Lauro*.

According to the above-mentioned Palestinian source, Polyakov reiterated the Soviet Union's support for the PLO, considering it the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, and emphasized the PLO's fundamental role in the peace process. He also stressed the need for an international conference on the Middle East in order to find a solution to the Middle East question.

The source added that Polyakov conveyed to Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] a message from the Soviet leadership thanking him for the PLO's efforts to secure the release of the Soviet hostages in Lebanon. During their cordial talks, which were held in an atmosphere of full understanding, according to the same source, the two sides agreed to continue contacts in order to coordinate their stands on every new political development in the region.

Finally, the Palestinian source did not rule out an official visit to the Soviet Union shortly by a senior Palestinian delegation.

17 Iranian POW's Released to Red Cross 21 Nov

JN210739 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA) — Iraq today unilaterally released 17 Iranian POW's. They were handed over to representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] for transfer to Iran. A special Iraqi Boeing 737 bearing the ICRC insignia took off for Ankara this morning with the 17 Iranians on board.

The release of the POW's is prompted by humanitarian considerations and is in implementation of Iraq's principles, which stem from its values and Islamic heritage. With the release of this batch, the number of Iranian POW's released so far since the outbreak of the war is 592 prisoners.

Communiques Issued on Latest War Activities

19-20 Nov War Actions

JN201723 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Communique No 2,028 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 November 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. No matter how much the ignorant Iranian rulers insist on continuing the war, our valiant Armed Forces will continue to stand like a strong, towering mountain along our lofty border in order to crush the enemy's capabilities and defeated remnants.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Formations from our forward units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris delivered effective artillery and mortar strikes against the enemy units facing them, killing six soldiers and destroying three infantry positions and one ammunition dump.

2. Our forward units in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah pounded enemy positions and troop concentrations, killing four, destroying one mortar emplacement and one observation post, and setting one infantry position on fire.

3. One ammunition dump was set on fire in the II Army Corps central sector and another ammunition dump was destroyed in the V Army Corps northern sector.

4. The criminal enemy forces shelled Al-'Uzayr with long- range artillery.

5. Expressing their rejection of the foolish policies of the regime of charlatanism in Iran, fresh groups of Iranian civilians defected to our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 November 1985

18-19 Nov War Actions

JN191739 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Communique No 2,027 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 November 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces' abilities, determination, and persistence increase day after day. These forces are ready to destroy the empty heads of the despotic Khomeyniite clique until they respond to the call of peace.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. With the daring action of our valiant hawks, the despotic clique ruling Iran will continue to be deprived of the resources it is using for the purposes of aggression. Our gigantic Air Force planes swooped down on a very large maritime target near the Iranian coastline at 1430 [1130 GMT] today. After hitting their target both accurately and effectively, the valiant hawks of the air returned to base with their planes both safely and triumpantly under God's care and protection.

2. According to a precise field directive, a heroic force from our units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris launched a bold raid on the enemy positions opposite our units. In a resolution assault and a short battle, our men forced the enemy to leave its positions and flee after four of their soldiers were killed. The force searched the enemy positions before returning safely to base, bringing three rafts and destroying another. God bless the men of the heroic VI Army Corps.

3. A heroic force from our units in the II Army Corps central sector bravely raided the enemy forward positions. In coordination with our heroic artillery men, the force pounded the enemy positions, killing five, wounding others, and destroying several positions, including a DShK machinegun emplacement. The force then returned safely and triumphantly to base, praised be God. An ammunition dump was set on fire elsewhere in the same sector. God bless the men of the heroic II Army Corps.

4. Using various types of weapons, our units in the operational sectors managed to inflict the following losses on the enemy:

a. Six were killed and one position was destroyed with its occupants killed and another infantry position destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Basra. The enemy was seen evacuating its losses.

b. One vehicle carrying personnel was destroyed and its occupants were killed or wounded in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. An enemy soldier was killed elsewhere in the same sector.

c. One enemy infantry position was destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

5. In an attempt to get rid of the charlatan Khomeyni clique, fresh groups of Iranian civilians defected to our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 November 1985

Papers on Iranian Leaders' 'Sense of Defeat'

JN200912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0712 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Nov (INA) — *AL-THAWRAH* says that Khomeyni is starting to retreat from war in spite of expressed intransigence and arrogance. In its editorial today, *AL THAWRAH* adds that Khomeyni has frankly expressed a sense of defeat, failure, and frustration when he informed his followers that he cannot spread the revolution with armies and occupation.

The paper affirms: Had not the Iraqis inflicted a crushing and bitter defeat on his armies and aggression, Khomeyni would have said something different and would continue threats and boasts about his armies and occupation. The paper recalls Iraq's peaceful stands ever since the very beginning of the aggression 5 years ago and Iran's rejection of these stands in spite of the massive losses inflicted on it.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: Iraq's final and complete victory is closer now more than any other time because our people's determination is increasing and solidifying day after day and their zeal for their just defensive battle is multiplying with the continuation of the war.

For their part, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* affirms that the Iranians are starting to abandon the ruling clique and to call for the termination of war. In an article today, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that the Iranian rulers are defeated, despite the military power they inherited from the shah and despite their bragging about their large population, size, and resources.

The paper adds: Iraq has achieved victory, its flag has risen, its sons have become prouder, it has triumphed over the enemy in all conflict fields, and it is able to deal deadly blows to the enemy without allowing it to avoid these blows or retaliate.

AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that the Iranian rulers will remain defeated until the last day of the war no matter how much they fan its fire or prolong its duration.

Damascus Tripartite Agreement Draws Comment

'Sources' View Amendments

NC172110 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] According to well-informed political sources, the amendments proposed by the Lebanese Forces to the Damascus Agreement, which was scheduled to be signed on 3 November, touch on this accord's essence and vital points. This position represents a reversal of the Lebanese Forces' stand, and the National Union Front disapproves of it.

The same sources have revealed that the purpose of the proposed amendments is to restore the majority of the Lebanese president's powers. The sources also add that the Lebanese Forces want to see the Lebanese Army refurbished within a short period of time and given the job of maintaining security and implementing the agreement. Radical changes are also being suggested in reference to relations with Syria from every point of view in the fields of security, politics, education, and economics.

Therefore, the sources say, the fate of the agreement — and, consequently, of the peace that seemed at hand just before the Lebanese Forces derailed it — remains in the forces court. They should bear the responsibility and the blame for this. According to the same well-informed political sources, the Lebanese Forces delegation went to Syria with sugar-coated arguments citing conflicts in East Beirut. The members of the delegation said that developments in East Beirut required that the agreement be modified if they were to push it through.

However, the sources add, by the time these modifications were spelled out, it became clear that they would torpedo the accord altogether. Therefore, the very discussion of the proposed changes is both impracticable and a sacrifice of the national interest. The National Union Front will not approve these amendments. Instead, it will revive its old proposals, which were not included in the accord. The front put these proposals aside at the time in order to give the agreement and the Syrian initiative a chance to succeed. The front also wanted to deprive certain people of any excuse to associate with foreign powers or to play for time.

The sources in the front said that they were not concerned with events in East Beirut. The parties that claimed to be able to implement any agreement reached must live up to their responsibilities. It is inadmissible to have the agreement fall and see the chances for peace wasted due to internal conflicts in East Beirut.

PSP's Al-Fatayri on Objections

NC151920 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Anwar al-Fatayri, Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] secretary general, said in an interview today that there are two essential causes for the parties' failure to conclude the Damascus agreement. The first is the pressure that the United States has exerted directly on the Lebanese Forces, tipping the balance in favor of Amin al-Jumayyil and the Dayr Mar 'Awkar group [the Lebanese Front], which opposes any political or security initiative. The second is the basic stand taken by the other party [not further specified], which has wagered all along that time will allow it to withdraw from any commitment and to prepare the atmosphere for a new assault on the Nationalist Party, in an attempt to liquidate it.

Al-Fatayri continued: It suffices to examine the new state draft budget, particularly the army's share, which exceeds 20 percent of the overal budget. This makes it clear to us that they are two-faced and are capable of dirty tricks.

The PSP secretary general said: The conclusion of the Damascus agreement will not be the end of the problem as far as we are concerned, because we have grown used to all of these maneuvers, particularly in the last 10 years. Still, we are determined to provide every opportunity for the creation of new conditions, while preventing the forces of backwardness and ignorance, which continue to control the struggle directly, from getting a chance to catch their breaths.

Asked if this means that all weapons will be retained until the Damascus agreement is implemented, if it is ever signed, Al-Fatayri said: That is exactly what we mean, and with regard not only to weapons but to the status quo. The statement issued by the PSP Central Committee was very clear on this, and there is no room for misunderstanding.

Asked if a military solution is again looming as a means out of the current stalemate, Al-Fatayri said: Not in an absolute sense, but it remains an alternative with considerable opportunity for success in the future, given our thorough knowledge of the malicious intentions of the black room, as Kamal Junblatt used to describe it, which is responsible for all of the Maronite politicians' initiatives and decisions.

In regard to the means of handling the traditional parties' objections to the Damascus agreement, the PSP secretary general said: Despite our respect for their positions and resources, their objections are not really valid. Any settlement agreed upon must by necessity be outside our current system because it will be based upon the ruins of their experiment, the effects of which the Lebanese are still suffering, including destruction, backwardness, and deviation from our proper future.

Al-Fatayri concluded by saying: In our view, two conditions must exist if their objections are to be rendered acceptable to us. The first is a nationalist perspective, which must oppose the current regime and its group; and the second is acceptance of the concept that political sectarianism must be eliminated and democracy adopted as the foundation of our new national direction. This means that the country must be pulled out of the whirlpool of sectarian formulas.

Forces' Objections Detailed

NC201442 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Sources close to the Lebanese Forces note that the fact that no amendments have been made to the [tripartite Damascus]

agreement, and that unreasonable and unacceptable sectarian demands have been made means that we are now at the stage where everyone is biting fingers. The sources add: What we have to find out now is who is going to feel the pain first.

The sources go on to say: In its present form, the agreement gives everything to Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt and leaves nothing for the Lebanese Forces. In an attempt to explain the reason that the agreement was not signed, the sources give the following example: We have asked for the introduction of amendments touching on the powers vested upon the president of the Republic, but we do not want these amendments to lead to any change in substance. We have told them that we do not want a dictator for a president nor do we want him to turn into another Queen Elizabeth. Let us reach a compromise, we said. But the result is that the president's powers have become like those of the British queen.

The same sources add that the Lebanese Forces agreed in principle to the abolition of political sectarianism. The forces proposed that this be put into practice in the next parliamentary elections. The Forces also demanded that the Chamber of Deputies fix the date for ending the transitional period before the evacuees return home because it is unreasonable to hold non-sectarian elections without giving a chance to the evacuees to return to their villages and homes. The same is true with respect to the clause on the need to have strong relations with Syria. A phrase in the draft agreement called for the integration of the two countries. We demanded that the word integration be replaced by the word coordination, because integration means unity and confederation, and does not express our own understanding of the relationship. Furthermore, for the Christians, the word integration means the swallowing up of Lebanon. We do not believe that Syria wants to swallow up Lebanon and therefore, we demanded a change.

Regarding the Lebanese Army, the Lebanese Forces sources say: The agreement depicts the army as a scapegoat and practically the biggest loser. We have requested that the army be given a chance and its participation in the security plan be defined because we cannot tolerate the army being the biggest loser, when the agreement takes into consideration the status of the fighters belonging to all the other parties.

Shi'ite Leader Discusses Limits

LD170048 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 16 Nov 85

["Shi'ite Parliamentarian Skeptical of Peace Talks Success" — headline]

[Text] Beirut, Nov. 16, IRNA — Lebanon's vice-chairman of the Supreme Shi'ite Assembly Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din said Saturday that the current negotiations between Amal, the Phalangists and Druze forces would lead nowhere. Shaykh Shams al-Din said that the Phalangists are only trying to secure their power through such a plan and that the Muslims would not gain anything from any agreement with them. "The participants in the Damascus talks are not representatives of the Lebanese people" the Shaykh said, "therefore," continued he "they cannot decide for the people."

The vice chairman noted, "we fully support the Syrian effort for ending the war in Lebanon, but it lies with the people to determine their own future."

He also said that both the East and West aim to destroy the Islamic culture in the country.

Mufti Urges Signing

NC151319 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Republic, has said that the Damascus agreement still holds. He called on the parties involved to sign it. In an interview with *AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI* magazine, which will appear on Monday, Mufti Khalid brushed off accusations by Walid Junblatt that the Islamic Grouping and the Christians are trying to obstruct the agreement. He said: I cannot agree with Walid Junblatt on this matter. I hope he will review his position and cooperate with his fellow countrymen in implementing the agreement. He cannot accuse them of balking at an agreement that has not been signed yet.

Mufti Khalid responded to Junblatt's criticism of the Islamic Grouping by saying: Not everything that Junblatt says is always true.

Mufti Khalid denied that the Sunnis were excluded from the discussions. They declined to take part, he said. He also declared that he did not think a national conference should be held, saying that such a conference could stir up enough trouble to bury the agreement.

AL-SAFIR on Amendments

NC191209 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 18 Nov 85 pp 1, 9

[Excerpt] According to various reports, most of the new amendments which the Lebanese Forces' delegation recently took to Damascus go beyond the issues of reform, the system of government, and the distribution of powers and authority, and touch on the relationship with Syria. These amendments can be summarized as follows:

Regarding the powers of the president of the Republic, the amendments note the following propoals:

The right of the president to repeal legislative decrees and to attend Cabinet sessions to discuss these decrees. This would effectively allow the president to attend all or almost all Cabinet meetings.

The right of the president to attend those Cabinet meetings convened to appoint the Army commander, the director general of the Internal Security Forces, and the governor of the Bank of Lebanon. The tripartite agreement, however, notes only the president's right to chair Cabinet sessions in specific cases that are confined to "meetings held to declare war, peace, a general mobilization, an emergency, the dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies, the ratification of a constitutional draft law, election

law, the budget, and general amnesty." It also notes "his right to call for an extraordinary Cabinet meeting when the fate of the country is endangered."

The recognition of the president as the supreme commander of the Armed Forces. The tripartite agreement does not mention this. The agreement only entitles the president to chair Supreme Defense Council meetings with no right to vote.

Concerning the political regime's principles, the amendments note the issue of a transitional period. They demand that this interim period not be limited to a specific time frame. In the tripartite agreement, this issue is stated as follows: "The transitional period will begin as soon as the first government is formed after this agreement. It will end when the Chamber of Deputies ratifies a new constitution. The Chamber of Deputies will meet to debate and to ratify this constitution within a period not to exceed 5 years."

According to sources concerned with the tripartite agreement, these amendments were not among the pending issues discussed during negotiations, nor were the amendments regarding the relationship with Syria. These amendments clearly indicate the regional and international dimensions reflected by the Lebanese Forces' sudden position.

These sources are questioning whether the Lebanese Forces want to blackmail Syria in order to achieve gains related to the internal Lebanese situation and the distribution of authority. However, these sources note that the amendments dealing with the internal situation do not basically affect the essence of the political balance on which the agreement was based. Instead, they seek to create a relative imbalance that could be redressed in other areas either through the new administration on which the political system will be based, or through the agreed legislative authority as follows: "During the transitional period, popular representation will be enlarged by increasing the number of deputies ... and the way to achieve a just and sound representation is on the basis of equal numbers of Christians and Muslims, of equality among the three largest communities, and in accordance with an adherence to the principles of this document until the sectarian representation is repealed at the end of the end of the transitional period."

The aim of the proposed amendments, therefore, remains a regional one centered on the following: The Syrian military role in Lebanon; the Syrian security role in Lebanon, which falls under the clause pertaining to the mechanism for ending the war; and the strategic integration of Lebanon and Syria.

Regarding the first point, the amendments of the Lebanese Forces note the need for the Syrian military presence in Lebanon to take the issue of a truce agreement with Israel into account. The tripartite agreement clearly refers to "the deployment of Syrian military units in certain areas of Lebanon to be defined by joint military committees according to the requirements necessited by Syrian and Lebanese strategic security considerations." "The fateful struggle being waged by Syria against Israel, and Syria's endeavors to establish a strategic balance with Israel ... require that Lebanon not be the door through which Israel can deal any blow to Syria or otherwise threaten it."

As for the second point, the amendments have requested that a 6-month period be set for Syrian help in controlling the internal situation. The amendments also indicate objections to the Syrian role in rehabilitating the Lebanese Army and to the points where the Syrian forces will be deployed after a comprehensive ceasefire has been implemented. It is understood that the amendments express reservations about any Syrian entry into south Lebanon or the eastern areas.

Regarding the third point, the amendments note the need to dispense with the term "Syrian-Lebanese integration" and to substitute it with "coordination." This applies to the various political, military, economic, educational, security, foreign, and information fields.

Hubayqah Briefs Phalangists on Developments

NC160806 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, responded to an invitation from the Phalangist regional office in Ba'abda yesterday afternoon. He was received by Dr Jean Ghanim, director of the office, members of the Executive Committee, heads of sections, and military officials in the Phalangist-controlled area of Ba'abda.

Elie Hubayqah spoke on the current situation and briefed the conferees on local, regional, and international developments, including the tripartite draft agreement, relations with Syria, and efforts to end the state of war in Lebanon.

After discussing the items on the agenda, the regional council members expressed their support for the march of the Lebanese Forces and praised efforts made to end the state of war and the Lebanese tragedy. In his speech of welcome to Executive Committee Chairman Elie Hubayqah, Dr Jean Ghanim, director of the regional office, stressed that change in our institutions and our party was essential.

6th Brigade, Junblatt Forces Clash in Beirut 20 Nov

NC201616 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Personnel of the 6th Brigade and Junblatt's followers have been fighting in Tallat al-Khayyat area for half an hour, when the latter tried to remove the Lebanese flag from some institutions and positions manned by brigade personnel.

Tension soon extended to 'A'ishah Bakkar area, where clashes involving the use of medium-caliber weapons and rockets are raging. Internal security forces immediately cut the roads leading to the scene of the clashes.

Gunmen of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party were deployed in Al-Hamra' area in an attempt to prevent Junblatt's followers from hoisting Progressive Socialist Party flags.

Government Directorate Stormed

NC210905 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Junblatt's followers stormed the Directorate of Public Works near the Al-Hilu Barracks in West Beirut at 0900 today. They tore down Lebanese flags, assaulted members of the Internal Security Forces, and hoisted the Socialist banner.

In another development, the Lebanese flag flying at the post office in Riyad al-Sulh was removed and replaced by the Socialist banner. The Socialists threatened to blow up all schools flying the Lebanese flag today.

Security reports indicate that Junblatt's followers have massed men and military vehicles and are patrolling the areas of Al-Mazra'ah, Al-Tariq al-Jadidah, Al-Ramlah al-Bayda', Al-Manarah, and Sultan Ibrahim flying the Socialist and Druze Popular Army flags.

'Violent' Fighting

NC201710 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1655 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Fighting between personnel of the 6th Brigade and gunmen of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has been going on in West Beirut areas for 2 hours. The fighting became violent an hour ago and involved the use of light- and medium-caliber weapons as well as artillery batteries and rockets. The fighting, which broke out in Tallat al-Khayyat, extended to the areas of 'A'ishah Bakkar, Al-Mazra'ah, Al-Ramlah Al-Bayda', around the Amir Bashir barracks, and near the Soviet Embassy.

Security reports indicated that Amal gunmen are now fighting alongside the 6th Brigade. While personnel of the 6th Brigade are checking the advance of the Socialists, other Socialist groups have surrounded the Amir Fakh al-Din barracks to prevent reinforcements from reaching the 6th Brigade positions. Meanwhile, 6th Brigade personnel arrested Socialist gunmen who were heading toward West Beirut.

We have just been informed that tanks are now being used in the battle. Personnel of the 6th Brigade are pounding the socialist positions from their barracks.

Socialists Storm TV Building

NC201733 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1720 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] On the occasion of Lebanese flag day [Independence Day], a treacherous shelling by Junblatt was directed at the Amir Fakhr al-Din and Amir Bashir barracks this evening. The Socialists sought help of artillery battries in western Al-Shahhar and Al-Shuyawfat at 1840.

The television building in Tallat al-Khayyat was shelled from positions held by Junblatt's followers and received direct hits. Transmission came to a halt. It has been learned that the Socialists managed to storm the television building. Clashes are raging in Tallat al-Khayyat in an attempt to drive the gunmen out of the building. We have learned that three soldiers of the 6th Brigade have been wounded by Socialist gunmen.

Socialists Fire on Checkpoint

NC201742 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1723 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Socialist gunmen in the Al-Tinul quarter in Verdan area fired at a checkpoint of the 6th brigade at 1830 tonight. The army returned fire and arrested three culprits.

Gunmen have deployed in the Beau Rivage and Summerland areas. They strengthened their forces in the Amir Bashir and Fakhr al-Din barracks and demanded support from the reservist force in the mountain. The sound of artillery, 60-, and 82-caliber shells was heard in the Tallat al-Khayyat and 'A'ishah al-Bakkar areas, where tension is very high.

According to security reports, Socialist groups tried to overrun the army's positions in the vicinity of the television building in Tallat al-Khayyat at approximately 1800. They fired several artillery shells and rockets at the positions. Two other groups surrounded the Amir Bashir and Fakhr al-Din barracks in the UNESCO area. Gunmen began appearing in the 'A'ishah al-Bakkar area.

Amal Official in Building

NC201749 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1744 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] According to the latest reports on the ongoing clashes around the television building in Tallat al-Khayyat, the socialists have stormed the building and the fate of the TV employees is still unknown. 'Akif Haydar, head of Amal Movement Political Bureau, has been detained inside. It should be recalled that Haydar came to resolve the situation.

Building Remains Occupied

NC201817 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1738 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] According to security reports received by the Voice of Lebanon a short while ago, Socialist elements entered the television building in Tallat al-Khayyat at 1715 this evening. Inside the building, they removed photographs of officials. They also took down the Lebanese flags which had been hoisted to mark the occasion of flag day and the anniversary of independence and replaced them with Socialist flags. The Socialists stormed the building in the midst of violent clashes which are taking place between them and 6th Brigade personnel. According to reports, many Army personnel have been injured, some of them critically. Amal groups are separating the parties, and the West Beirut Coordination Committee is trying to settle the situation.

Amal elements have also cut the roads in the Al-Ramlah al-Bayda' and Spinneys areas. They have completely surrounded the Socialists, who had infiltrated the area near the Amir Fakhr

al-Din and Bashir Barracks. Our security correspondent reported a few moments ago that T-54 tanks belonging to the Socialists have arrived in Khaldah to support their force in the Tallat al-Khayyat areas. Explosions and bursts of machinegun fire are still being heard in Tallat al-Khayyat and the vicinity of the Fakhr al-Din and Amir Bashir Barracks. The television station has not yet resumed transmission.

Fighting Stops After Intervention

NC201819 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1802 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The fighting which broke out between the 6th Brigade and [Socialist] gunmen in Al-Tallat al-Khayyat at 1740 tonight has stopped following the intervention of the Western Beirut Coordination Committee. It has dealt with the situation in order to end the tension and withdraw the gunmen from the streets.

A responsible source tonight denied the report broadcast by a private radio station that gunmen have entered the Television Canal Seven building. The source emphasized that this report is completely unfounded and that the Army personnel charged with maintaining security there are performing their duty well. The source further affirmed that all the television officials are well despite the fact that four rockets were fired at the building.

Tension Around TV Building

NC202211 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Machinegun fire is still being exchanged and intermittent shelling continues around the Sabra and Shatila camps between the Palestinians and the Amal Movement gunmen. At the same time tension prevails around the television building in Tallat al-Khayyat and the Amir Fakhr al-Din and Amir Bashir barracks, after Junblatt's men assaulted the Lebanese flag today.

Following violent clashes with personnel of the 6th Brigade who were protecting the television building, Junblatt's followers stormed it. According to reports, employee Mahmud Badran and a number of the 6th Brigade soldiers were wounded.

In another development, the Amal Movement has erected roadblocks in the Spinneys and Al-Awsa'i areas, and has kidnapped a number of Socialists. In return, the Socialists erected roadblocks in the Al-Musaytibah, Cola, and Al-'Ijjah areas and kidnapped a number of Amal Movement gunmen.

PSP Bans National Day Celebrations in Mountain

NC201637 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1620 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has banned independence day celebrations in the mountain areas. The party instructed its commands, party members, and supporters to fly socialist and Druze Popular Army flags on institutions and schools instead of Lebanese flags.

Moreover, PSP patrols warned government department officials to fly socialist instead of government flags. Political leaders in West Beirut expressed their strong indignation and denounced this step.

E. Beirut Bank Demolished by Explosive Charge

NC192023 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] 'Aytat is coming under intermittent machinegun fire from the army positions in Suq al-Gharb. At 2110, a mortar shell fell on 'Alayh, causing only property damage. In East Beirut, an explosive charge went off near Hursh Thabit, demolishing part of the Lebanese-French Bank.

Amal Issues Communique on Operations in South

NC192014 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] In the resisting south, the Amal groups of the Lebanese resistance issued a communique on its operations against the occupation forces and Lahd militias undertaken between midnight last night and today. The communique reads as follows:

1. The Yatir position was shelled with 107-mm rockets which hit their target. Flames were seen rising from a fuel tank at the position.

2. A patrol on the Al-Hamrah-al-Bayadah bridge was attacked with machineguns and RPG-7's.

3. Four katyushas were directed at the Suq al-Khan triangle in the eastern sector.

4. Three 107-mm rockets were used to shell Rabb al-Thalathin, in the central sector.

5. A position jointly held by the enemy and agents in (Jibin) in the western area was attacked by rockets. Fires were seen at the position.

6. Machineguns and RPG-7's were employed in an attack on a position on the northeast hills of Kafr Rumman, which lasted 30 minutes.

In another development, Israeli gunboats were observed cruising off the coast of Al-Sarafand. Israeli jets flew over Sidon and the south this morning before heading northeast.

2 Swiss Red Cross Delegates Kidnapped in South

NC201905 Paris AFP in English 1855 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Beirut, Nov 20 (AFP) — Two Swiss nationals, delegates of the International Red Cross Committee (ICRC), were kidnapped in south Lebanon tonight by armed men, according to reports from the south Lebanon capital, Sidon.

The reports, quoting police, said that two men and two women ICRC delegates were en route from Tyre to Sidon in a Red Cross ambulance when they were stopped by armed men in a car near al-Qasimiyah bridge, 25 km (about 15 miles) south of Sidon. The gunmen seized the two men and drove off.

Amal Obtains Release

NC210919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Excerpt] In the south, the Amal Movement has been able to secure the release of two Swiss employees of the International Red Cross only a few hours after they were kidnapped by gunmen in Zifta.

French Observers Relinquish Mountain Post

NC191224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The French observers handed over their position at Hill 888 on the mountain to Lebanese observers at 1100 today. Brigadier General Jean Nasif, representative for the army; Marcel Laugel, French charge d'affairs in Lebanon; Colonel Bernard Bory, commander of the French observers; Colonel Rafiq Fighali, commander of the disengagement force on the mountain; Colonel Nasim al-Gadiri, commander of the observers post at Hill 888; and Sa'id al-Dawi, the Progressive Socialist Party representative also attended.

Al-Asad Receives Phone Call From Al-Jumayyil

JN201824 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil today. Al-Jumayyil congratulated the president on the 15th anniversary of the corrective movement. Talks revolved around the situation in Lebanon as well as the importance of continuing efforts to push forward the march of peace and accord.

'Sources' on Syrian View of Tripartite Agreement

NC210715 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Political contacts on the tripartite agreement resumed in Damascus yesterday; the atmosphere was tranquil this time. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Michel Samahah, an envoy of the Lebanese Forces. Khaddam met in the morning with a delegation from the Islamic Grouping that included Deputies Zaki Mazbudi and Jamil Kibbih.

Former Minister Michel al-Murr also met with Syrian Vice President Khaddam, Defense Minister Mustafa Talas, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' in Damascus. A number of Syrian sources were quoted as saying that Damascus does not believe the recent emotionalism will affect the fate of the tripartite agreement. The sources added that Damascus is determined to keep these efforts going. We have also learned that Damascus has no objections to amending the draft agreement and that it understands the positions taken by all parties.

Beirut Paper Interviews Vice President Khaddam

NC201103 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 18-24 Nov 85 pp 16-22

["Exclusive" interview with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam by unidentified *MONDAY MORNING* staffer on 12 November; place not given]

[Text] [Question] What are the problems you have had in a decade of dealing with Lebanese politicians?

[Khaddam] In Lebanon, as in other countries, there are generations. In Lebanon, there is the "independence generation" made up of the fathers of independence and those who formulated the present formula, there is a second generation which can be said to have grown up in the shadow of the "independence generation", and finally, there is a third generation which grew up in the atmosphere of the bloody battles that have unfortunately taken place in Lebanon. Consequently, if we are to seek the best means to end the Lebanese crisis, we must consider this reality in an objective and realistic manner.

But let me stress that these three generations are not restricted to one region or one specific faction in Lebanon, but that through my experience and various contacts and meetings with Lebanese officials, I have sensed it everywhere. Each generation has its own conceptions and ideological or political background, and each hardly agrees with the others.

[Question] There is some doubt in Lebanon that those who bore arms will turn into ordinary citizens as soon as they lay down their weapons. How would that affect the peace pact currently being negotiated?

[Khaddam] There is no clear distinction between the armed and unarmed factions in Lebanon. It is true that these two factions exist, but in reality the unarmed factions have often proved more destructive than the armed.

The distinction should be made on the basis of ideas, opinions, political conceptions. The armed men are Lebanese citizens, yet they acted as personal tools of politicians and, from what I gathered from the majority of them, they have engaged in a war others had decided for them, others who wanted them to be a tool of destruction without a say or role in the construction of the future Lebanon. This is why the question does not concern the armed men, but those who took and are taking decisions, those who have used the armed men for their goals.

[Question] But can those who bear arms implement a security accord?

[Khaddam] Had the agreement been signed, the armed men would naturally have implemented it. One clause (of the pact) provides for the dissolution of armed and semi-armed organizations and for the surrender of weapons to the state. This clause was to be implemented, and we were confident it would have been carried out.

[Question] Some factions believe that the main benefactors of the accord are the Sunnis, since, not having taken part in the militia fighting, their losses have been minimal. How would you react to such a view?

[Khaddam] In Syria, we do not look at the Lebanese situation through the sectarian divisions prevailing on the Lebanese scene, because we believe these divisions to be the cause of the Lebanese problem, and the accord that was scheduled to be signed does not take anything from one faction in order to give it to another, but rather takes from all to give to Lebanon. It would be impossible to substitute one sectarian solution for another, or to replace the hegemony of one sect with that of another. The accord was to restore the decision-making to the Lebanese people and citizens, and to restore peace and sovereignty to Lebanon as a state and people, not to any one faction. Syria cannot participate or sponsor an accord that cements sectarian partition, hegemony or trends.

[Question] Certain leaders of the Lebanese Front, after gathering information about the draft pact, have said it constitutes a complete Syrian takeover of Lebanon. What is your comment?

[Khaddam] Such a statement does not deserve to be answered, and I think those who made it do not really believe what they said, since they know very well that Syria has no goals in Lebanon apart from that of seeing it regain its unity, sovereignty, independence, and prosperity, on the basis of the reforms which would allow all Lebanese to have equal rights and duties. The only

distinction between the citizens would then be based on how much each offers to his country.

[Question] Some Lebanese factions are saying that the new pact would make the president a mere figurehead. Is this true?

[Khaddam] There is a president of the republic in Lebanon, and the accord does not make him a figurehead, though it does put authority in its natural place. The president of the republic, in the new accord, is the country's leader and the symbol of its unity.

He is responsible for protecting the constitution, he chairs the Defense Council and the government in certain specific circumstances, namely the formulation of the budget, deciding upon war or peace, declaring a state of emergency, and calling for a cabinet meeting when the welfare of the nation dictates this.

There are different political systems. A system can be a democratic, parliamentary one, or a presidential one within the context of a democracy and parliament. Therefore, the president must be the one to make decisions, since he is the person who will be held accountable. In addition, giving the government the right of decision-making gives everyone a chance to participate in making decisions, since everyone would be responsible.

However, should the Lebanese choose a presidential system, the president of the republic would be responsible to the people and would therefore have to be elected by the people, regardless of sectarian affiliation, and every citizen would have a chance to participate in the election.

Moreover, if a president does not preside over the government, that does not mean that he is a cipher. In Syria, the president does not preside over the government or the executive body, yet the quality of the work of this body is very satisfactory.

There are numerous daily problems in a state, and the president of the republic cannot possibly take care of all these never-ending problems. If he did, he would be concerning himself with minor problems that are someone else's responsibility, and neglecting major issues....

In Syria, the president has an immense amount of work, and were he to concern himself with details, he would not be able to lead, administer and orient the country in the manner which, as everyone says, has led to great achievements on the internal, Arab, and international levels. In no country is the value of a president measured according to achievements in daily issues, but in the major achievements the country has realized through his good administration.

[Question] Christians, and more particularly Maronites, fear that if the accord is signed, they will become second-class citizens. Is that right?

[Khaddam] No, it isn't. The accord dealt with essential issues. It aimed at abolishing political sectarianism in order to achieve equality among all Lebanese. Does equality mean there will be classes of citizens? The accord states that the only distinction between the citizens will be based on how much they offer to their nation. Does that mean that a Lebanese citizen will become a second-class citizen? If the accord aims at reconstructing the nation on democratic bases that eliminate the causes of the crises which frequently erupted there, does this mean there is a distinction between the citizens?

Let's speak objectively. In Lebanon, the president is Maronite, the army commander in chief is Maronite, the commander of the military police is Maronite, and many of the top security and economic posts are held by Maronites. Did all this guarantee security and stability for the Maronite citizens?

Let's look at the reality on the ground. Certain Maronites do hold prominent posts, but how many thousands of Maronites have emigrated? How many thousands of Maronites have been killed in this war? How many have lost their sons or husbands, how many have lost their homes or been displaced from their villages? Did these posts provide them with any of the guarantees such as those offered by a modern united and solidarity state where each citizen feels he has a nation to which he is directly affiliated, and not by proxy?

In the present circumstances, the national affiliation in Lebanon is an indirect one, namely by being affiliated to one sect rather than through loyalty to the country. The political structure of Lebanon did not give any citizen the chance to be attached to his land and nation, and this explains why a large number of Lebanese welcomed the Israeli invasion of their country and capital, and actually dealt with the invader, though he was invading Lebanese land.

I think the real reason for the absence of national reactions lies in the fact that one is affiliated to Lebanon through his affiliation to his sect. This is why the guarantees that must be sought now are guarantees for the citizens rather than for the sects. When we speak of guarantees for sects, we are implying that the country will remain torn to shreds, with each sect demanding equal guarantees. If the presidency of the republic, coupled with wide-ranging prerogatives, is the privilege of one sect, the other sects will ask for equal privileges. Therefore, since the country has one president, not two, three, four, five, six, seven or eight, the privileges cannot be allocated to specific individuals but will lie in a national system, whereby the Lebanese citizen would be attached to the Lebanese nation, the Lebanese land and the unity of the Lebanese people. This provides guarantees for all, whereas sectarian guarantees are guarantees of divisions that are bound to lead to the partitioning of Lebanon, thus achieving Israel's ultimate goal.

[Question] What is the proportion of Maronites compared to other communities in Lebanon?

[Khaddam] You know that Lebanon is not Syria. We have no such statistics nor do we care for such information. In Syria, we do not consider such issues and do not look at the internal situation in any Arab country through its social structure, but we deal with people on the basis of their political beliefs. We do not think it important to know the proportion of the various sects because we cannot help or conceive of a solution based on sectarian distribution.

[Question] Should one of the three factions that have negotiated the tripartite accord decide not to sign it, what will become of the pact? You said in your meeting with the Lebanese Bar Association that there are substitutes. What are these?

[Khaddam] The failure to sign the accord does not mean the end of efforts to reach entente. Syria's President Hafiz al-Asad is determined to spare no effort that can help end the state of war and achieve national entente in Lebanon, and we know that he is devoting most of his time and efforts to this cause.

During my meeting with American congressmen of Arab origin, I said that the warring factions were courageous in that they have sought to restore peace, and that we hope some politicians too will be courageous enough not to obstruct the orientation toward peace. Of course, the failure to sign the accord will lead to resentment and disappointment, but it will not constitute a relapse since Syria is determined to continue its work until the crisis is ended.

We know the scope of the American and Israeli attempts to thwart this accord, and I wish to say one thing to those who heed the American and Israeli advice: Let them look back at the past and see that such counsels have only caused them harm. It is time everyone was motivated by Lebanon's interest rather than the interests of others.

[Question] Are the negotiating factions committed to the implementation of the tripartite accord? Does its signing necessarily imply its implementation, or is it but a draft liable to amendments?

[Khaddam] The accord is a work program that should have been presented in a larger context, that is, in a national conference. It is a program that will be passed by parliament and the constitutional institutions.

[Question] Does it have to go through a national conference, the parliament and various constitutional channels, in order to be implemented, or can it dispense with a national conference?

[Khaddam] This accord formulates the means of restoring peace to the country and it is only natural that we should all strive to provide it with the widest support possible. We dislike the idea that any faction should be outside this accord, but in the final analysis, the important thing is that the fighters, who constitute the new generation spawned by the war, have been able to negotiate, since it is this new generation that will live in the context of the new situation, if we take into consideration their real and political age. But that does not mean the others must be excluded from the accord, and this is why we have looked for the best means of providing it with the widest support and participation possible.

[Question] Who would supervise the implementation of the accord militarily? Would Syria impose it by force on those who opposed it?

[Khaddam] Syria does not conceive of imposing anything on any Lebanese faction. We wish to achieve entente through dialogue since we believe that the correct and safe way of putting an end to the present situation in Lebanon can only come through dialogue and entente.

[Question] Would the Syrian Deterrent Forces deploy in all the Lebanese regions?

[Khaddam] That will be discussed in light of the security plan that will be agreed by all factions.

[Question] I take it then that Syria has no intention of abandoning President al-Jumayyil.

[Khaddam] I am surprised you should ask such a question.

[Question] How would you describe your relations with the Lebanese Forces, and with its chief executive, Elie Hubayqah, in particular?

[Khaddam] Various contacts and meetings have been conducted with the Lebanese Forces, and from these we have sensed a trend toward achieving peace. We considered this orientation as serious and worthy of attention, and this paved the way to the tripartite negotiations with the representatives of the National Unity Front.

[Question] Syria has the right to have a special relationship with Lebanon. What is the scope of this relationship?

[Khaddam] You know that Syria and Lebanon are sister states, with very important historical and geographical links and common interests. As to the extent of the relationship, this would be defined by the Lebanese in the light of what serves Lebanon and Syria. I say it is up to the Lebanese to define the relationship because certain people are trying to harm both Lebanon and Syria by instigating doubts among the Lebanese about it. Yes, the relationship between Syria and Lebanon must be special and based on what would serve both countries, especially as Syria has no goals in Lebanon and does not seek to have hegemony over its sister. Lebanon is a sister state, and we cannot base our policy of cooperation with any Arab sister state on principles of hegemony.

[Question] Yet some will say Syria is seeking to restore "Greater Syria"? How would you reply to those who hold this view?

[Khaddam] Arab unity is a political conviction of all Arabs, and we hold it to be the fate of the Arab nation. However, those who are suggesting that we seek to establish unity between Lebanon and Syria are themselves seeking to obstruct the path to entente. Of course we dream and hope that the Arabs can some day achieve unity, and this dream is not only Syrian, but exists among the Lebanese, Egyptians, Palestinians, Iraqis and throughout the Arab world.

[Question] You have said that the U.S. and Israel are trying to block the Lebanese accord. Which faction do you think will benefit from such a move, and what means might it resort to in order to carry out American and Israeli designs?

[Khaddam] The U.S. and Israel are certainly exerting every effort to obstruct accord, the U.S. for reasons relating to the region, believing that Lebanon is a burden on Syria. Israel is

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motivated by the same reasons, but it also desires to see Lebanon partitioned, since its idea of security is based on two considerations: regional expansion to what it calls "secure borders", and the wish to see the Arabs too divided to be able to oppose it or confront it.

[Question] You have said in a previous statement that the U.S. is trying to carry out the second phase of the Camp David agreement. What are the goals and broad lines of this phase?

[Khaddam] The second phase of Camp David provides for separate negotiations with the Israeli enemy. Any sort of negotiations with this enemy would represent the second phase of Camp David.

We believe that peace was agreed upon at the 1984 Fes summit. However, the Arab decision and the Camp David decisions are two different things. Therefore, any attempt at conducting direct or indirect negotiations with Israel constitutes one or more steps on the road to Camp David and will be met with an adequate Syrian response.

[Question] As an authority on Lebanese affairs, do you think the Lebanese presidents have abused their privileges?

[Khaddam] Any Lebanese citizen can provide an ample answer to this question.

[Question] Does the draft accord provide for the formation of a new government, and is this government to be constituted of the armed factions?

[Khaddam] The accord naturally provides for the formation of a new national unity government to group all factions. The armed factions are part of the political life in Lebanon and all those who believe in this accord, those who are linked to it and those who have contributed to its success must participate in the new government.

[Question] Do you think the new Lebanese formula, if implemented, will be really enduring, or might it break down after a number of years?

[Khaddam] Lebanon has tried the sectarian formula since 1860 in some of its regions, and in all of its territory since 1943. Yet the only visible result of the implementation of the sectarian formula is pain and misery. I think the formula suggested now is a Lebanese national one, and the one most likely to succeed.

[Question] Do you think the politicians have been wrong since the beginning because they refused to let the militias participate in negotiations, and particularly in the Geneva and Lausanne conferences?

[Khaddam] In Lausanne, we clearly felt that the absence of armed organizations, which had by the time gained a political role, did contribute to not reaching an agreement. However, it is the fact that some leaderships always look at Lebanon from where they stand, rather than where Lebanon should stand, that contributed most to the failure of Lausanne.

[Question] Who will appoint the new deputies?

[Khaddam] The issue of appointment results from the collapsed state of security. Lebanon is living in an atmosphere of civil war, of fighting, and a transition period is a must. But let us look at the present parliament and, with all due respect to the important political role it has assumed by remaining a symbol of the unity of the nation, for being indeed the only constitutional institution that represented Lebanon's unity, we cannot but admit that this parliament has appointed itself and renewed its terms time after time, though it was first delegated by the people for a four-year term.

[Question] What if the Christians and Lebanese Forces refused the suggested formula?

[Khaddam] This matter concerns them. We have never and will never put pressure on any faction. The country is theirs and the future is theirs, and they decide what they think is best for their country. Naturally, every faction will decide what it thinks best for the country. We play the role of a mediator. This, as I have had frequent occasions to say, requires from us to be at equal distances from all the factions.

[Question] Do the current negotiations aim at a truce or a final end to fighting?

[Khaddam] What is being negotiated, or what has been agreed, provides for definitive peace in Lebanon since the implementation of the agreement would leave no one armed.

[Question] The accord mentions a security plan. Does this mean a Syrian deployment in all parts of Lebanon?

[Khaddam] As I have told you earlier, the accord provides for the formation of a security committee that should supervise the security situation in all parts of Lebanon. If this committee asks for Syria's help, Syria will consider if this help is really necessary. But of course, it is this security committee that decides where, when and how help should be offered. But Syria has absolutely no intention of making even a simple step forward out of its own initiative.

Syria's role is one of help, and when it is asked to help it will consider its capacities and circumstances, and, should it agree to heed the call for help, it will do what is asked of it.

[Question] You told the Lebanese Bar Association that the return of the displaced to their homes will be completed during a five-year transition period. What are the guarantees for this?

[Khaddam] The implementation of the accord completely guarantees this.

[Question] Let us move to the broader Arab context. Will an Arab summit be held and will Syria participate in it?

[Khaddam] As you must know, there is no clear talk of an Arab summit and we have no information saying that such talk is being conducted.

[Question] President Hafiz al-Asad had suffered from health setbacks in the past. Has he completely recovered, as we hope he has?

[Khaddam] President al-Asad enjoys an excellent health and as you can see, he is carrying on his activities and leading the country very energetically. Thank God, his health is now better than ever.

[Question] What are the obstacles facing an international conference on the Palestinian issue in which the Soviet Union would participate?

[Khaddam] The refusal of Israel and its allies of the formula of an international conference, which should be sponsored by the United Nations and based on its various resolutions.

[Question] What will the repercussions of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit be concerning international peace and a solution to the Lebanese and Middle East crises?

[Khaddam] The Reagan-Gorbachev summit is undoubtedly of the utmost importance and will have major repercussions on all international causes. If the Soviet Union and U.S. achieve some detente between themselves, this will reflect positively on all international issues, but if they fail to reach an understanding, this will also reflect on the world in general, but negatively of course.

[Question] How would you describe the relationship between Syria and the Soviet Union, and between Syria and the U.S.?

[Khaddam] The Soviet Union is a friend that is always by our side and offers us all sorts of aid that allows us to confront the enemy. Our relations are based on the cooperation pact that was signed by the two countries, and it is evolving very smoothly and positively.

As for the U.S., our relationship is linked to the American position toward the Arab-Israeli conflict and the various regional issues.

[Question] How much has your relationship with Jordan improved, and what about the Jordanian-Palestinian accord?

[Khaddam] We have had two meetings in Riyadh and are having a third one today (Tuesday 12). We have agreed on a number of important points during the previous meetings, namely:

1. Abiding by all the Arab summit resolutions;

2. Rejecting all individual or partial solutions — hence we consider the Amman accord dead and buried;

3. Agreeing that the Fes resolutions are the guidelines of the Arab peace plan; and

4. Peace must be cemented through an international conference sponsored by the United Nations.

These are the major points. As to the bilateral relations, a meeting will be convened to discuss the various issues and we expect it to bring some positive developments in the relationship between the two countries.

[Question] King Husayn has announced his determination to restore links with Syria, and at the time states that he will not give up the Amman accord. Can the expected Al-Asad-Husayn meeting be convened in such circumstances?

[Khaddam] We believe the Amman accord is dead, since it was based on the Jordan-'Arafat axis, which is an individual one. We have refused such individual moves in the Riyahd meetings. Our relations with Jordan or any other country is based on a very clear and stable policy, namely that the conflict with the Israeli enemy is a global Arab struggle and no Arab faction may work to end it except in the context of a wider Arab move.

On the other hand, we do want peace but peace has its conditions. These are the Israeli withdrawal from all occupied lands and a recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to their land, decide their fate and establish an independent state. This requires the establishment of a balance between us and the enemy, coupled with discussions through an international conference to be sponsored by the United Nations.

[Question] Has Yasir 'Arafat been "crossed out" from the Syrian dictionary, or are any efforts done to bring about rapprochement between Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization?

[Khaddam] The question — and I do not want to speak of names or individuals — is one of method. The method which 'Arafat and some of his brothers have adopted completely contradicts the interests of the Palestinian cause and people. This goes against the Syrian policy and consequently we will have nothing to do with it since we do not build our policy on emotional or personal bases, but on styles and methods. In this sense, the position of Yasir 'Arafat does not concern us, but concerns the Palestinian people.

[Question] You mentioned a "balance" with the Israeli enemy. How far have you gone in this direction?

[Khaddam] This is one goal we seek to achieve and for which we have exerted and are still exerting great efforts. I think we have achieved a lot in this direction, but we still have much more to do.

[Question] Is a military confrontation with Israel likely?

[Khaddam] As long as the battlefront is present, we must expect attacks and military confrontations.

[Question] You have overcome five assassination attempts, yet you have never been more determined to carry on...

[Khaddam] Anyone working in the national field must realize the dangers surrounding him and put up with his special circumstances. I have been helped in this by the support granted me by President al-Asad, the Syrian people and the clear, determined and national policy adopted by Syria.

[Question] How would you describe the Arab support to Syria?

[Khaddam] I cannot say it is very regular. Some Arab countries have suspended their support but we expect them to reconsider their decision and resume this, since support is needed for confrontation. We hope they will.

[Question] How would you describe your relationship with Saudi Arabia?

[Khaddam] This relationship is good and based on mutual respect and the various agreements between the two countries.

[Question] It is said the Syrian-Iranian relationship has deteriorated of late, and that Iran is considering the suspension of economic relations with you. Is this true?

[Khaddam] The Syrian-Iranian relationship is not based on interests but on a strategic conception. We hold the Iranian revolution to be a great gain for the Arabs and the region, since it has ousted the Americans and raised the slogan of Arab participation in the liberation of Jerusalem. Moreover, this revolution — were it not for the present (Gulf) war — would have had the opportunity of participating directly in the confrontation with Israel, and we would consequently have been able to realize its importance and the importance of Iran's siding with us, compared to its siding with Israel during the Shah's rule. Our relation with Iran is good and there is no reason to suspend it.

[Question] It is also said your relationship with Iraq has significantly improved, and that the resumption of friendship is now possible. Is this true?

[Khaddam] There has been no new development in this field.

[Question] Should Egypt bring some amendments to the Camp David agreement, would you consider restoring your relationship with Cairo?

[Khaddam] It is not a matter of amendments but of politics and policies. Does Cairo think the Camp David trend is beneficial to Egypt and the Arab nation? That is where the problem lies. If Cairo realizes what Camp David does against the Egyptian and Arab interests, it must take adequate measures to renounce it, and it will then find Syria by its side, supporting it and cooperating with it. However, if it considers that Camp David serves the Egyptian interests — and that is what we and the Egyptian people deny — a meeting between Damascus and Cairo is unlikely.

We want Egypt back in the Arab ranks, and what links us and Cairo is stronger than what links any two other Arab countries. Together we have fought the Tartars and Mongols, the Crusaders and Israelis, and there is a strong emotional and long-dating relation between the Syrian and Egyptian peoples. We are struggling with the Egyptian people to restore Egypt to its natural place in the Arab ranks by thwarting the Camp David agreement and the peace treaty with Israel.

[Question] It is said that a Jordanian-Israeli statement will be issued providing for an Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and West Bank, and the formation of a committee that will assume autonomous rule for five years in these regions. How would you comment on this?

[Khaddam] We completely reject this suggestion. There can be no Israeli or American peace in the region. The U.S. is not qualified to assume a peace role since it is biased toward one of the factions. The U.S. follows the Israeli policy and not only is an Israeli or American peace rejected here, but it also has no chance of success.

Foreign Minister Confers With Hungarian Official

JN201202 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Gabor Nagy, Hungarian deputy minister of foreign affairs, and the accompanying delegation at 1100 today. Assistant Foreign Minister Rashid Kilani and the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the international situation in general and the situation in the region in particular. The two sides also stressed the importance of promoting bilateral relations in all fields.

Commentary on Peres Statement Before Knesset

JN201245 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1132 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres these days does not hesitate to make statements about what he calls peace, the peace process, and direct negotiations without preconditions. Almost everyday, news media carry statements by Peres and other Israeli officials on the alleged peace process Israel is seeking within the framework of a large-scale organized campaign launched by world Zionism and imperialist news media in an attempt to improve Israel's image in the world and to show it as a peace advocate and as a party which seeks negotiations lading to this peace. This is an attempt to make the world forget the crimes Israel has committed and is committing against peace in the region and against Arab land and rights.

Peres did not hesitate before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, as the AP said, to claim that Jordan and Syria have asked the USSR to resume diplomatic relations with Israel so Israel will not prevent it from participating in the proposed international conference on the Middle East. In these and other statements, Peres premeditatedly does not tell the truth. Syria is not a trustee of USSR policy. The whole world knows that the USSR severed its diplomatic relations with Israel following the latter's aggression against Arabs in 1967 and that, up to this recent Knesset meeting, the USSR has always said that it is still committed to its stand on resumption of diplomatic relations.

Syria's opinion on this issue is also known, namely that nothing justifies resuming these relations because the reasons which necessitated severing these relations are still valid and because Israel is still occupying Arab territories, confiscating Arab rights, and expelling millions of Palestinians and Arabs. From this premise, Peres' attempt to harm Syria and the USSR is an unsuccessful and exposed attempt. Moreover, the objectives of this attempt are also exposed.

The question in the region is not that of restoring diplomatic relations. The question lies in respecting the UN Charter and international law which forbids seizing others' land by force and guarantees all peoples' rights, including Arabs, to freedom, independence, self-determination, and to establishing a national state. Israel, which launched aggressive wars and violated even a UN General Assembly resolution by establishing a Jewish state in Palestine, is still rejecting the principle of withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories. It is still rejecting the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to their national state on their own soil. Israel is still rejecting the UN resolution on withdrawal, on Palestinian rights, and on an international conference under UN auspices to be attended by the parties concerned, including the United States and the USSR.

In light of this Israeli rejection, the Israeli rulers are responsible for the absence of peace in the region and for the tense situation which will explode at any moment in the region. The United States is also responsible because of its unlimited support for the Israeli rulers. Peres' talk about peace is only a cheap trading with the word peace, as long as his government rejects an international conference and the UN resolutions on a complete and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and refuses to recognize the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights.

Syria has always said that it seeks peace — true, just, and comprehensive peace which is based on respect for UN resolutions and principles of the UN Charter. It has also announced that the way to discuss this peace is an international conference under UN auspices. Syria has clearly said that it rejects capitulation and refuses to allow the aggressor to impose its conditions on the victims of aggression.

Peres: No Sign of Syria Ready for Direct Talks

TA200945 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0930 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said in the Knesset today that if Syria wants to conduct negotiations with Israel, Israel will agree to direct negotiations. However, the state of affairs in the area does not prove that Syria is aiming at such negotiations in the near future.

[Begin Peres recording] As for negotiations in the long term, we do not see any realistic Syrian willingness for this. The Syrians act in the direction of establishing what they call strategic parity, namely, a military option. They prefer international negotiations instead of direct negotiations and this is not acceptable to us. They prefer a joint Arab action, the common denominator of which is not positive. Therefore, I view the tension and unrest as an unnecessary thing which has no room at all. [end recording]

This was the reply of Prime Minister Peres to a query by Alignment Knessxt Member 'Edna Solodar and it was our correspondent in the Knesset 'Oded Ben-'Ami who filed this report.

Peres Says Territories Not Discussed With Jordan

TA201055 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1025 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Prime Minister Peres says that Israel and Jordan have not discussed any territorial issue. The negotiations currently under way revolve around the question of how to begin direct negotiations without preconditions with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation which does not include the PLO. This is the only issue and everything else constitutes attempts to block the negotiations on the negotiations. Those who do not want to begin negotiations are circulating unfounded remarks. This is what the prime minister said in the Knesset in answer to a motion to the agenda by Tehiya Knesset Member Ge'ula Kohen, who asked him to react to Husayn's declaration that the Jordanian flag will shortly fly over the Temple Mount.

The prime minister criticized Ge'ula Kohen personally, saying that she invents dangers and dangerous people and then comes out strongly against them and beats them to the ground. He added that she always talks to our youth as if we do not have world but only internal problems, as if we had already given up Judaea and Samaria, and as if traitors sit in the Knesset. This is a dangerous, terrible path on which you have embarked, the prime minister told Mrs Kohen, suggesting she choose a more serious and less emotional path.

Shamir on Syria-Jordan 'Rapprochement', Egypt Ties

TA202117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the rapprochement between Jordan and Syria is driving possible Israeli-Jordanian negotiations on a peace arrangement farther away. Minister Shamir was addressing members of the Likud's economic-social club in Jerusalem.

He lashed out against Egypt and said that its behavior regarding the murder at Ra's al-Burqa' represented a blatant violation of the peace treaty. Also, to this day Israel has not received a report on the assassination of an Israeli diplomat in Cairo. Both these murder incidents were a consequence of agitation in the Egyptian media. If Egypt wants to improve its relations with Israel and preserve the Camp David accords, it must choose between maintaining these accords or going along with the PLO. It cannot do both, Minister Shamir stated.

More on Jordan, Syria

TA210614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] The chances of negotiations with Jordan do not make the headlines these days. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who had been skeptical about this earlier, too, yesterday added the Syrian option chosen by Jordan as an obstacle to the peace process. Talking before Likud activists in Jerusalem he mentioned the expectation entertained by Jordan:

[Begin Shamir recording] Jordan, instead of detaching itself from the extreme approach of war against Israel and coming to the negotiations table with Israel, is seeking a new partner, Syria, which is extreme in its hostility and enmity toward Israel. The outcome, the conclusion drawn from the disappointment with the PLO, was rapprochement with Syria instead of coming closer to serious negotiations without preconditions with Israel. The agreement, the joint Syrian-Jordanian statement, contains two principles which are the basis for any settlement with Israel: No direct peace negotiations will take place between Jordan and Israel or between any Arab country and Israel, and no separate agreement will be reached. Our question then is: If we do not have direct negotiations and if we do not have an agreement — they called the Camp David accord a separate agreement — what is left of the peace process? What is there to talk about anymore? [end recording]

Egypt's New Prime Minister Interviewed on Ties

TA201101 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
20 Nov 85 pp 1, 9

[Report on "exclusive" interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi by Cairo correspondent Shefi Gabay in Cairo on 19 November]

[Text] In his first, exclusive interview with an Israeli newspaper, Egypt's new prime minister, Dr 'Ali Lutfi, said: "My country signed the peace agreement with Israel with the most sincere intentions, and as an architect of this accord — in my capacity as finance minister at the time — I expected tourism, trade, and cultural relations to develop naturally between the two countries. However, to my deep regret, Israel has not given Egypt the chance to let this come about."

Dr Lutfi explained that Egypt, the heart of the Arab world, cannot ignore Israel's actions in Lebanon, the prolongation of the Taba talks, or the fact that to this date "Israel has refused to reach a solution on the heart of the Middle East conflict: the

Palestinians' legitimate rights." He claimed that Israel has turned down every initiative, such as an international conference and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

He added: "I would truly have liked these things not to have happened so that I could help Egyptian-Israeli relations develop in all spheres."

Dr Lufti, a world renowned economics professor, greeted the *MA'ARIV reporter very warmly in his room in the Prime* Minister's Office late last night, and expressed readiness to answer at length each question which has been raised by the Israeli public.

In reply to a question, he said that the Amman agreement will not be primarily directed at a dialogue with the Americans alone but will be meant as preparation for talks with Israel at a later stage. He believes that "no peace talks will be possible without the Palestinians, who are the main party in the conflict."

Dr Lutfi added: "The question of the names of the Palestinians on the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation has cropped up, but I think a solution to the problem of peace is more important than the names. It is first necessary to sit down and talk, and no one in the world can force the Americans or the Israelis to sign anything they do not like."

Dr Lutfi, who heads the Egyptian-Jordanian coordination committee, said that King Husayn raised the idea of an international conference, "which is a chance to make peace, especially after Cairo's announcement."

He added that this is the first time he has ever sat down with 'Arafat, and noted that to the best of his understanding, " 'Arafat opposes all types of terrorism outside the territories conquered in June 1967. He has no control over the internal situation inside the territories, where a new generation of people who oppose the conquest has arisen."

The Egyptian prime minister does not anticipate an imminent meeting with his Israeli counterpart, Shim'on Peres, as long as the problems between the two countries remain unresolved.

The main problem he seemed to mention over and over in his replies was the problem of Tabah, which he claims has created the impression among the Arab countries that Israel is not abiding by its obligations. He expressed the hope that the talks which are scheduled to begin in December in Cairo and Herzliyya will bring about a decision on the matter within a month or two. He said that Egypt has historical documents proving that Tabah is Egyptian.

The Egyptian prime minister wished to convey to the Israeli people the message that the Egyptian people are peace lovers and that the case of the soldier in Ra's al-Burqa' who murdered seven Israelis, including four children, was an isolated incident which has no connection with any other incident, as has been proved. "At this very moment this soldier is standing trial before a military court, and he will be duly punished," he said.

Possibilities of Alignment-Yahad Merger Assessed
TA200820 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
20 Nov 85 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] In the next elections, Minister 'Ezer Weizman will apparently be included among the Alignment's first five candidates and will be the party's official foreign minister-designate. An official resolution on the matter is expected in the Alignment-Yahad merger talks that will begin soon.

The Yahad leaders have for several weeks been holding advanced contacts with the Alignment toward a full merger between the two parties, as distinct from the previous agreement on Yahad joining the Alignment as a faction. Yahad's secretary general, Gad Te'eni, heads the Yahad negotiating team. According to Alignment predictions, Yahad will win between 3 and 4 Knesset seats among the first 48 slots. The Yahad leadership will decide on its candidates for the next Knesset, but the current Knesset members will not necessarily be the candidates for the next one. The director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir, who is one of the staunchest supporters of a full merger with the Alignment, will be on the Alignment's senior political team, and will most probably be responsible for formulating the Alignment's political platform for the next elections.

Security Forces Uncover Bethlehem Terrorists
TA200821 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
20 Nov 85 p 4

[Report by Nadav Ha'etzni]

[Excerpt] A few weeks ago the security forces uncovered a terrorist squad whose members, all inhabitants of Bethlehem, were captured in possession of a number of Kalashnikov rifles and hand grenades. They belonged to Nayif Hawatimah's "Democratic Front" organization and apparently they intended to cross the border. The terrorists, Jamal Amin al-Mu'ati, 'Umar 'Awad, and Ramad al-'A'raj, are being held by the security forces and have already been brought before a judge.

'Grave' Incidents Reported Between UNIFIL, Amal
TA200736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] There were grave firing incidents in southern Lebanon last night between UNIFIL Irish soldiers and Amal Shi'ites. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the Shi'ites surrounded five Irish positions and fired at UNIFIL patrols. Fire was directed at the tires of UNIFIL vehicles which were exposed to attacks by armed Shi'ites. The UNIFIL soldiers returned the fire but no casualties were reported.

Our correspondent reports that the Amal organization leaders in the Tyre area arrived at the UNIFIL Irish command this morning and apologized for the incidents. An announcement from Tyre stated that the UNIFIL soldiers disturbed the Salvation

Front in its attempt to attack the army of southern Lebanon soldiers last night.

DAVAR on West Bank Settler Population Figures
TA111600 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Nov 85 p 7

[Article by Uri'el Ben-'Ami: "Post Factum Inventory"]

[Text] From a special *DAVAR* survey based on the lists of the heads of the settlements in Judaea and Samaria, it emerges that 50,500 Jews are currently living there. The survey was drawn up according to the key of four and a half people per secular family and five and a half people per religious family (in places where there was no accurate data). Data recently published by Dr Miron Benvenisti showed that 52,500 people are already living in Judaea and Samaria. The *DAVAR* survey indicates some 2,000 residents less and is based on the lists of the settlement leaders.

The Jewish population of Judaea and Samaria is almost equally divided between religious and secular people. Of the 87 settlements in the West Bank (not including the Jordan Rift Valley), 51 settlements are now religious, 20 settlements are secular, and 7 settlements are mixed.

Although there are more religious community settlements than secular ones, the number of their inhabitants equals that of the secular settlers in the urban centers of Ma'ale Addumim and Ari'el. The division between religious and secular underlines the process that has accompanied the settlements in Judaea and Samaria, which originated in ideology and, afterward, in the desire for a high standard of living, with the aid of fat government grants.

Willingness for a fight in Judaea and Samaria is not at present the fruit of ideology alone, but is influenced by the sums of money citizens have invested in a luxury villa in Samaria or an apartment on terms easier than those in the Dan Bloc. People in the urban settlements are not rushing to join in the fight because it is clear to them that they will not be evacuated without suitable compensation.

An official report of the Military Government, dated 15 June 1985, indicates 46,539 Jews in Judaea and Samaria (according to a *DAVAR* survey, as stated, there are currently 50,500 Jews in these areas). As of the day these lines are being written, 3,862 Jews are now living in the Jordan Rift Valley and 1,520 Jews are living in the Gaza District.

It should be recalled that hundreds of apartments are standing vacant in the urban settlements in the West Bank, some of them because they have not yet been populated and some are apartments still under construction, whose owners are waiting to take possession.

According to the survey, more than 50 percent of the Jewish inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria, more than 30,000 people, are living in the urban settlements. Below is the list of settlements, according to families and the number of people:

Samaria Regional Council

Place	Families	People
Elon More	100	550
Alfe Menashe	400	1,500
Barqan	60	250
Gannim	25	100
Berakha	25	120
Homesh	30	120
Hinnanit	25	100
Hermesh	20	80
Yo'ezer	12	50
Yizhar	15	70
Yaqir	50	250
Kaddim	12	60
Mevo Dotan	30	140
Ma'ale Shomron	45	180
Sal'it	40	160
'Enav	40	180
Qedumim	240	1,150
Netafim	30	130
Qarne Shomron and Ginnot Shomron	400	1,800
Rehan	13	50
Sannur	10	50
Shave Shomron	70	350
Sha'are Tiqva	70	280
Shaqed	40	160
Neve Zuf	120	600
Tel Hayyim	30	150
Tappuah	30	150
Pedu'el	15	60
Ornit	90	350
Elqana 'C'	4	10

The NAHAL presettlements 'Irit and Ginat are also in Samaria, and in the framework of the coalition agreement another settlement, Migdalim, is scheduled to be established there.

Gush 'Ezyon Regional Council

Place	Families	People
El-David	16	69
Allon Shevut	230	1,150
El'azar	27	163
Hadar Betar	7	*
Har Gilo	63	238
Karme Zur	11	41
Kefar 'Ezyon	62	408
Migdal 'Oz	26	161
Mezad (Asfar)	19	100
Ma'ale 'Amos	22	101
Neve Daniyyel	20	107
Rosh Zurim	43	268
Teqo'a	61	237

*This settlement is not yet established and the number of settlers is undetermined. Also there is the NAHAL presettlement Geva'ot.

Binyamin Regional Council

Place	Families	People
Abbir Ya'aqov	5	25
Adam	24	100
Bet El	120	600
Bet El 'B'	120	680
Bet Arye	130	520
Bet Horon	46	200
Mevo Horon	55	330
Dolev	32	125
Hadasha	44	245
Kokhav Hashshahar	47	230
Kefar Adummim	75	300
Mikhmash	32	166
Ma'ale Levona	20	70
Mizpe Yeriho	54	240
Mattityahu	17	85
Nili	50	175
'Ateret	26	105
'Anatot	22	100
'Ofra	130	700
Pesagot	52	260
Rimmonim	46	184
Shilo	85	425
'Eli	17	70
Nahli'el	9	45

Hebron Hills Regional Council

Place	Families	People
Adora	13	99
Bet Haggay	12	50
Karmel	22	98
Livna	29	119
Ma'on	8	27
Ma'ale Hever	12	64
Bet Yattir	19	105
Susiyya	24	112
'Omarim	22	89
'Otni'el	12	61
Telem	9	36

The NAHAL presettlements Eshkolot, Negohot, Neta', Adora 'B' are also there. The settlement of 'Asa'el, which belongs to the Me'uhedet Kibbutz Movement, is also to be established there.

The Urban Settlements

Place	Families	People
Ma'ale Adummim & Adummim Plain	2,500	11,000
Ari'el	1,000	4,500
Efrat	250	1,250
Qiryat Arba'	900	5,000
Giv'at Ze'ev	870	3,500
Elqana	300	2,000
'Immanu'el	461	4,300

Some 4,000 people are now living in the Jordan Rift Valley and about 2,000 in The Gaza District. As stated, in a comprehensive calculation, altogether some 56,000 Jews are now living in Judaea, Samaria, Gaza, and the Jordan Rift Valley.

ALGERIA

Iranian Foreign Minister Visits, Holds Talks

Arrives 19 Nov

LD201057 Algiers APS in Arabic 0820 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Algiers, 20 Nov (APS) — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived here last night.

In a statement to the press, he said that he carries with him a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. He added that he will be holding talks with Algerian officials covering matters of common interest.

He was welcomed on arrival by member of the FLN Central Committee and Minister of Commerce Abdelaziz Khellef and senior officials.

Received by Bendjedid

LD201629 Algiers APS in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Algiers, 20 Nov (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, received this morning at the presidency Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who conveyed to the president a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i.

The meeting was attended by Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, and the Iranian charge d'affaires in Algeria.

Departs 20 Nov

LD202349 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left Algiers tonight at the end of a visit to Algeria during which he conducted talks with Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister.

Finance Minister, USSR Envoy Plan Upcoming Talks

LD201334 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Issues to be discussed at the joint Soviet-Algerian committee meeting were the topic of discussion during a meeting held yesterday between FLN Political Bureau member and minister of finance, Boualem Benhamouda, and the Soviet ambassador to Algeria. The meeting also discussed the scope available to develop relations between Algeria and the USSR.

LIBYA

'Revolutionary Officers' Meet, Support Leader's Line

Statement Declares Commitment

LD210259 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0036 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Statement issued by the Libyan Revolutionary Officers after their 18-20 November meeting; place not given — read by unidentified speaker]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Statement of the meeting of the revolutionary officers held between 5th Rabi' al-Awwal 1395 from the death of the prophet and 7th Rabi' al-Awwal 1395 from the death of the prophet, corresponding to 18 to 20 November 1985 AD:

During a period encumbered with great responsibilities and grave challenges which threaten the entity of the Arab nation — civilization and existence — and which threaten freedom everywhere and under warnings of the destruction mankind and under the shadow of terroristic imperialistic Zionist reactionary intransigence, the meeting of the revolutionary officers — members of the revolutionary committees movement, the natural extension of the Free Unionist Officers Movement — is being held [applause] during which their overt and covert missions are being discussed and following declared:

1. We all are Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi [applause] and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is the commander of the Green March and a lofty symbol of our dignity, honor, and glory and the glory of the masses of the Arab nation and all the free in the world.

2. The revolution is the decisive solution to the question of freedom, and this is a choice we do not deviate from. The Great 1 September Revolution detonated by the commander and thinker Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi [applause] is a growing a strong revolution, a revolution that knows no impossibility, and does not fear any challenge or any dangers for the sake of realizing its objectives. [chanting]

3. The dissemination of the immortal principles embodied in the Third Universal Theory is a constant task of all the revolutionary forces.

4. Our strong will and firm determination are capable of destroying the haughtiness and intransigence of America, leader of world terrorism, and its plans, which are hostile to our aspirations to freedom and final liberation from oppression, exploitation, and enslavement.

5. Our alliance with the progressive forces consolidates freedom and escalates the revolutionary struggle against world imperialist terrorism.

6. Securing freedom inside the Arab homeland around it is one of our tasks, which we must impose on the actual land, and we shall never allow formulas to be imposed on us. We shall act —

and with vigor — to impose our determination and force those who challenge us to accept it.

7. The building of the national entity of the Arab nation is a strategic aim, has no room for hestitation, and is not subject to international spheres, because it is a lawful demand dictated by the higher national interest of the Arab nation.

8. The continuation of tampering with the national interests of the Arab nation and capitulation to the enemy makes it encumbent upon us to resist the capitulatory regimes with all force and to assert the interests of the Arab nation.

9. This is a revolutionary task the revolutionary forces undertake to carry out. [chanting]

10. Our feet, which are shaking the earth, are marching forward, capable of crushing the traitors, the stray dogs, and the hooting owls, faded faces, and filthy cliques — agents of the CIA. While affirming all this, we declare our commitment as follows:

a. For any attempt aimed at harming the person of the leader of the revolution and its symbol, the world will pay its price dearly. [chanting]

b. The revolutionary forces declare their joining the Green Revolutionary Guard.

c. The seeking of traitors, the agents of the imperialist intelligence agencies and their liquidation. [chanting]

d. Drawing up an intellectual program aimed at raising the intellectual capabilities of members of the revolutionary committees.

e. The awareness of the armed forces must be raised against any counterpropaganda.

f. Any counterrevolution attempt must be immediately crushed without having to refer to any quarter. [chanting]

g. The striking of American interests in the Arab homeland.

h. To act to transfer the battle inside America and to assert the alliance with the Black movement and the red Indians, the original inhabitants, and to back their liberation causes materially and morally.

i. To assert the continuation of the strategic alliance with the progressive forces in Iran and Ethiopia.

j. Continuing to back world liberation movements against imperialism, racism, and Zionism.

k. Waging the battles of Arab unity by force — and any battle for the unification of the Arab nation is an internal question that concerns the Arab people alone. We warn of the consequences of interfering in it. [chanting]

l. The mobilization of public opinion in Egypt against the traitorous regime.

m. To assert the alliance with the live forces in Egypt and back them materially and morally.

n. To assert the backing of the popular revolution in the Sudan.

o. Total alignment with the popular masses in Tunisia.

p. The revolutionary officers affirm that they will continue to participate in the creation of social changes to create a new Jamahiriyah society free of repression, injustice, and exploitation.

q. Effective participation in revolutionary programs aimed at undermining the old society.

r. Continuation of the transfer of military sciences to all members of the society as a means toward the realization of the armed people. [applause]

s. Instigation of the armed forces to actual participation in production.

t. Continuation of chasing the stray dogs, the dogs of the CIA, and their physical liquidation.

Forward: The long struggle is continuing. The Fatih forever and the people's authority forever. [chanting]

Cable Promises Attacks on U.S.

LD211325 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 21 Nov 85

["Text" of a cable to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi from the Libyan Revolutionary Officers following their meeting with him 18-20 November; read by an unidentified speaker, date and place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] To the commander, teacher and revolutionary thinker, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. [applause]

As we conclude our revolutionary meeting, which we called for to draw up the necessary measures to protect and escalate the revolution internally and externally; we, the free officers, members of the revolutionary committees, the natural extension of the free unionist officers movement [applause], are anxious to clash with the enemies of the revolution, those fascist reactionary partisans who are agents and lackeys of imperialist and colonialism.

We are determined to settle accounts with our enemies, the enemies of the revolution, and to chase them wherever they may be. We hereby warn the leader of international terrorism, the United States, about the consequences of escalating its stand against the commander of the revolution and the Arab nation. [chanting] We affirm that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is the symbol of our dignity, glory, pride, ambitions, and aspirations and that any harm that might come to him, whether material or moral, constitutes harm to us, to which we will reply by most

ferociously turning ourselves into suicide squads to destroy everything. [chants: "All revolutionaries are Mu'ammar and anyone who antagonizes him must be destroyed."]

We affirm that we are coming to settle accounts with the defeatists and those who throw themselves at the threshold of the American black house — particularly the traitorous ruler of Egypt — who have committed the major sin against the Arab nation. [chanting]

We declare that the fire of the revolution, for which we are the fuel, will devour them all. We declare our determination to attain Arab unity by force and to spread the green color until it covers the entire universe. [chanting]

We affirm our determination to continue the strategic alliance with the progressive and revolutionary forces in Iran and Ethiopia and the American Blacks and red Indians. [applause]

In conclusion, we affirm that we are your apostles and guards and that all of us are Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. [chanting]

Long live the symbol of the struggle of the vanquished, the deprived, and the persecuted in the world. Forward, the revolutionary struggle continues.

Signed: The meeting of the revolutionary officers

Al-Qadhdhafi Attends Meeting

LD202245 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] During the past 2 days the brother leader of the Great al-Fatih Revolution conferred with a large number of revolutionary officers of the various services of the Libyan Arab Armed forces.

Demonstrations Denounce U.S. 'Conspiracies'

LD202049 Tripoli JANA in English 1838 GMT 20 Nov 85

["Anger Demonstrations Continue" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Awal 6, Nov 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Yesterday, the women revolutionary force in the Basic People's Congress of 'Al o'Youn' in Baladiyat al-Shati and the masses of Zuzaitinah area in Baladiyat Ajdabiya took to the streets in an angry demonstration in challenge and denounciation of the U.S. conspiracies against the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership.

Masses taking part in this demonstration of anger declared their continued readiness to carry out the order of death defending their people's authority, wealth, and arms which they owned thanks to the Great al-Fateh Revolution and their absolute belief in the pioneering thought advocated by the Third Universal Theory — the thought of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

MOROCCO

King Addresses Reagan, Gorbachev on Summit

LD201449 Rabat MAP in English 1306 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Rabat, Nov 20 (MAP) — On the occasion of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting currently taking place in Geneva, King Hassan II of Morocco addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, and to Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, messages in which the sovereign surveys the problems currently preoccupying the Arab nation and explains the manner in which this nation perceives the ways and means likely to bring about the establishment of a fair and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region.

Following is the text of the message addressed to M. Gorbachev and to M. Reagan:

"In one of the resolutions reached at the close of its sessions, the Arab extraordinary summit held in Casablanca (August 7-9, 1985) entrusted me with the mission of giving you, in view of the talks you are having, a survey of the problems currently preoccupying the Arab community, in order to try, as much as possible, to enlighten you as to the manner in which this very community perceives the ways and means likely to bring about the establishment of a just and global peace in the Middle East region, as well as to the human and material possibilities it might offer as a traditionally humanitarian participation to the comprehension between men and to the cause of peace in general.

"In fact, deeply attached to the ideals of justice and peace, the Arab community will make all the efforts required and will accept all sacrifices, so that peace may prevail and that security may be preserved and maintained in the world. It consequently deplores and condemns, without reservation, any action that may impair peace, stability and people's natural right to live in security and calm.

"Furthermore, in its constant concern to see peace prevail everywhere in the world, the Arab nation, deeply worried, wonders about the reasons of Iran's persistent and, in its judgement, unjustified refusal of Iraq's proposals for a ceasefire and for peace. In fact, if the Iranian-Iraqi war is not rapidly put an end to, it may create, in the Gulf region, a situation that would be detrimental to all and whose consequences would, no doubt, be extremely serious. Apart from this, it is quite clear that the region is, from the strategic point of view, equally important for each of the two superpowers.

"The Casablanca extraordinary summit looked carefully into the situation in the Middle East and into the Israeli-Arab conflict in all its aspects, endeavoring to come out with, as much as possible, an accurate and objective assessment, for a better apprehension of the peace chances available.

"First of all, because terrorism constitutes a horrible and serious obstacle in the way of peace, it was condemned, unanimously and without reservation, by all the states present or represented at the summit.

"As to peace per se, the summit reiterated its adherence to the Arab peace plan adopted by the Arab heads of states convened in Fes (September 6-9, 1982), reaffirming everyone's commitment to respect each of the rules stipulated in it. However, the summit believes that, if the Fes plan obviously constitutes one of the most reasonable bases conducive to the final solution, it ought by no means exclude any other plans or projects, provided their objective be the establishment of a truly just, global and worthy peace likely to put, once and for all, an end to the situation prevailing in the region of the Middle East for nearly forty years now.

"In order for the desired peace to be just and global, it is imperative that its conditions and details be negotiatedbetween all the parties concerned or interested, without debarment whatsoever.

"Struggling and making sacrifices during the past decades for recovering all its rights, up to and including that of achieving the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state, the Palestinian people can be represented validly and legally only by the PLO — the sole and legitimate representative, de facto and de jure. Such is the solemn commitment which the Arab states consider as the keystone of their union, even if this union seems, unfortunately, often breached.

"This attachment shown by the Arab nation towards the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people does not result, as one may be tempted to believe, from a dogmatic position. It is rather the result of the realism which has always marked the Arab approach to the Palestinian problem, as it reflects a wholesome and fair comprehension of the components of this problem.

"In political matters, more than in other matters, any solution would suffer from its precariousness if born inoperative. Regarding the Middle East, any solution not containing the full and definitive commitment of all the peoples involved in the conflict would only be precarious and therefore considered, rightly, stillborn.

"Now then, if most of these people involved in the conflict are represented by recognized states, the Palestinian people have, de facto and de jure, no other representative than the PLO:

"De facto because, since 1974 — that is the year in which the Arab summit held in Rabat made of the PLO the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Any substitution for the PLO would be unreasonable and therefore unacceptable.

"De jure because, since that date, the international community has, almost in its entirety, confirmed the PLO's quality of sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It is, therefore, in such a capacity that the PLO is a full-fledged member of more than one regional or specialized organization, and an observer within the United Nations.

"Obviously, the objective of our joint efforts is peace, a peace which needs to be negotiated on the basis of conditions and procedures to be determined. The search for peace implies the substitution of a situation of security, stability and tolerant co-existence for a situation of war, confrontation and intolerance. Subsequently, those to be invested with the mission of negotiating peace must enjoy an exceptional credibility and a representativity recognized by all, and here, so far as the Palestinian people concerned, none and no other organization but the PLO can claim such a credibility or representativity.

"You should rest assured that the position of the Arab nations in this matter is being dictated by both realism and justice.

"The Casablanca summit conference has also pointed out that the conditions of the peace being sought would definitely be better guaranteed if negotiated within an international framework.

"These are the broad lines of the general policy adopted by the Arab extraordinary summit held in Casablanca (August 7-9, 1985).

"As you may notice, these lines conform perfectly to the rules of international law and reflect, on the whole, the Arab nation's deep attachment to the noble ideals of peace, justice and security.

"The talks you are having in Geneva will, in part, relate to the problems just raised. Rather appreciative of your keen dedication to the cause of peace and justice, I feel quite aware of the special importance you attach to your relations with the whole of the Arab nation and to the concern you personally show in the role it might play in seeking peace and, especially, making it last.

"I feel as confident as the whole of the Arab nation that you fully appreciate the value of the present step which the Casablanca summit has asked me to take before you.

"You should furthermore rest assured that, in essence, such a step constitutes nothing but the sincere and loyal contribution which in the Arab nation hopes to bring to your own endeavors towards peace and justice.

"May the Almighty, Lord of all, make this appeal reach the heedful ear and the comprehending mind. Amen."

Filali Addresses Parliament on Sahara Policy

LD210048 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Abdellatif Filali, the foreign affairs and cooperation minister, confirmed today before the House of Deputies that the Saharan file was closed before international organizations, but that this did not mean closing the field to any moves aimed at finding a just solution to the Saharan problem through a referendum. In his statement, which he presented at the request of the parliamentary groups on the issue of our territorial unity, the minister pointed out the contacts Morocco held with Algeria and Algeria's frustration of all the attempts to create a climate that would facilitate the establishment of the Arab Maghreb. Here is a dispatch from the House of Deputies:

The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation confirmed that the Saharan file was closed years ago: in the political field,

through the expression by the population of the Sahara of their will and Moroccan identiy and their exercise of their constitutional rights and representation in the House of Deputies and local councils; in the military field, through the heroic sacrifices of the Royal Armed Forces and the security wall, which fortified the citizens and spread security and stability in the Sahara; and through the people's unanimity, with their political bodies, parties, and trade unions, and their rallying around the leader of its march — His Majesty King Hassan II, may God make him victorious.

The minister spoke about the contacts Morocco held with Algeria in January, February, and March of this year with the aim of reaching an agreement on the problems of the region and creating a new climate in the Arab Maghreb. These contacts were accompanied by good mediation efforts and positive proposals from brothers and friends, perhaps the most prominent among them the call by Tunisia for a summit of the countries of the Arab Maghreb.

Algeria, however, frustrated those attempts. Thus, contacts were frozen and our peoples were disappointed because of the Algerian insistance on involving its mercenaries and ghosts.

The minister, however, said that this did not (?weaken the determination) of Morocco to search for peaceful solutions. Therefore, it invited the UN secretary general, Perez de Cuellar, who was received by His Majesty King Hassan II. The king confirmed to him Morocco's desire to hold a referendum under the supervision of the UN as soon as possible, after the OAU had failed to carry out its task with fairness and impartiality.

The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation confirmed that the decision to close the file did not mean the freezing of our moves or that we will become self-absorbed or that our movement will abate: The opposite will happen, as Moroccan diplomacy will double its efforts and continue its moves, especially in the countries of the Third World in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Abdellatif Filali also confirmed the Morocco's attachment to international principles and charters, announcing the renewal of confidence in the UN secretary general should he find the suitable conditions to undertake any initiative capable of reaching agreement on the holding of a referendum in the region by means which are in harmony with the UN efforts in many African and other regions. He stated that Morocco was still ready for a dialogue with the UN secretary general. This consideration on our behalf, the minister said, does not prevent the UN secretary general from talking with whom he likes and making contacts with whom he wishes.

Once again the foreign affairs and cooperation minister confirmed Morocco's belief in and hope for the creation of an Arab Maghreb that would have ended the wasting of energies. The minister called for an agreement between Morocco and Algeria that would be a cornerstone for the creation of a unified Arab Maghreb, a Maghreb that would enjoy solidarity with which to confront challenges no single country alone can confront. He said that the time has come to overcome bilateral problems within the context of a unionist vision that is dicated by geographical and historical fatalism, present and future — a matter that imposes coexistence in response to the conquering will of our peoples, whose march cannot be stopped.

The minister concluded his statement saying:

[Begin Filali recording] Morocco, as it was ready in the past, is ready for a fraternal dialogue with its neighbours, but only within the context of the respect of its sovereignty and legitimate rights.

Mr President, Dear Deputies: I came before you today to inform you of the developments of our fateful cause and the new policy that his majesty wishes Moroccan diplomacy to pursue in this field. I am confident that it will enjoy your support and unanimous backing. May God make us succeed in carrying out our responsibilities. He is the all-hearing. May God's peace and mercy be upon you. [end recording]

Tomorrow, Thursday, the House of Deputies will hold two sessions, in the morning and evening, to continue the discussion and vote on the articles of the draft law on value added tax.

SUDAN

'Clarifications' of U.S. Travel Advisory Sought

JN210939 Khartoum SUNA in English 0926 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 21 (SUNA) — The Foreign Ministry has started official contacts with a view to obtaining clarifications of an American statement talking about an alleged presence of terrorists in Khartoum and advising American citizens not to travel to the Sudanese capital.

However, SUNA's reporters have failed to obtain any official comment from the Sudanese Government. The American Embassy here also gave no comments or explanations.

Meanwhile, a news release issued by the American Centre here yesterday quoted a travel advisary it said the Department of State issued in Washington yesterday, as advising U.S. citizens to avoid Khartoum due to presence here of known terrorists and possible threats to U.S. interests.

U.S. 'Allegations' Denied

JN211101 Khartoum SUNA in English 1040 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum Nov 21 (SUNA) — Interior Minister Gen (police) 'Abbas Madani has denied the U.S. allegations that said terrorists are existing in Sudan.

He confirmed that the security situation in the country is stable and the security forces are completely controlling the whole country.

In comment on statement released by the American Centre here yesterday advising the U.S. citizens not to travel to Khartoum due to existance of known terrorists in Khartoum, Madani said that these news are "baseless and unfounded".

Meanwhile the daily newspaper *AL-SAHAFAH* said that Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah, Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub and Interior Minister 'Abbas Madani will today summon U.S. Ambassador to Khartoum Hume Alexander Horan to discuss this matter.

A news release issued by the American Centre here yesterday quoted a travel advisory it said the Department of State issued in Washington yesterday, as advising U.S. citizens not to travel to Khartoum due to presence here of known terrorist and possible threats to U.S. interests.

Falasha Trial Court Offices Stormed, Damaged
JN201557 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Nov (SUNA) — The offices of the prosecution and defense committees in the court hearing the case of the Falasha Jews' transportation to Israel have been stormed and damaged. This was announced by Prosecution Committee Chairman Al-Sadiq al-Shami and Defense Committee Chairman 'Abd al-'Aziz Shadu at today's session.

Al-Shami said that the office of the prosecution committee was damaged and that this was discovered during the break today. He asked the court to write to the attorney general to receive the vehicles brought from 'Arusah village in Port Sudan which are kept in the court as a deposition in trust.

Shadu said that the office used by the defendant and defense committee as a restroom was also damaged, and the window showed signs to having been stormed. The defense committee confirmed what Shadu said and called for adopting stricter security measures, saying that this act was considered serious in terms of security.

The court asked the responsible circles to adopt adequate security measures and agreed to keep the 'Arush vehicles as a deposition in trust.

The defense and prosecution committees did not mention any losses from the incident.

Falasha Airlift Trial 20 Nov Proceedings Cited
JN201926 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Nov (SUNA) — The seventh prosecution witness in the case of the Falasha airlift to Israel, Major General 'Uthman al-Sayyid, said that he knew about the Falasha affair in 1980 when he and the first defendant ['Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib] paid a secret visit to Ethiopia within the framework of improving relations. During that visit there were several meetings during which Ethiopian security officials said that they had information about the transportation of the Falasha Jews via Sudan to Europe and Israel.

At this morning's court session the prosecution witness said that he went to Addis Ababa in March 1980 as a member of a delegation led by former Vice President 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil. The Ethiopians told him that they had information about Falashas being smuggled to Europe and the United States and then to Israel via Sudan. He pointed out that the Ethiopians repeated this from 1980 to 1982 at seven meetings, some of which were attended by the first defendant, 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib. Written and oral reports were submitted to Al-Tayyib about the meetings he did not attend.

At today's session the seventh witness said: We asserted to the Ethiopians that we had neither relations nor political or security coordination with Israel because of our principled stand on Israel. He noted that the counterintelligence branches had information that some foreigners were working to transport some Falasha Jews. The subject was followed up, and a number of persons were arrested in Juba and Khartoum. The Foreign Ministry was notified so that they would be expelled.

'Uthman added that those arrested in Juba were two Americans. A report on them was submitted to the first defendant with a suggestion to summon the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum and notify him about the actions of those two Americans, which were rejected by Sudan. 'Uthman added that this actually took place, and the ambassador promised that this would not be repeated.

The witness said that at the beginning of november the third defendant, Security Colonel Musa Isma'il, and the second defendant, Colonel al-Fatih 'Urwah, contacted him and informed him that there were directives from the first defendant giving directives from the ousted president allowing the Americans to transport the Falashas to Europe and the United States. He noted that Milton explained to him that they asked the first defendant to allow them to transport the Falashas via Sudan to Europe and the United States within the framework of a resettlement program, and that the first defendant promised them he would contact the ousted president for a decision on this. 'Uthman added that Milton informed him that the first defendant (?obtained) the approval of the ousted president.

The witness expressed his conviction that he as well as some other ranking commanders in the defunct security service were bypassed, because the objective was to achieve a personal financial gain for the first defendant. He noted that the idea of establishing the security service was an ingenious ploy and that he had no knowledge of the organ's account in London.

Regarding the decision to allow the Americans to transport the Falashas, 'Uthman said that it was supposed to have been presented to a number of circles, but this did not take place. He said that he knew that the final destination of the Falashas was Israel, and that the first defendant knew this from the reports.

The defense interrogated the prosecution's sixth witness, Colonel Muhammad al-Fatih 'Abd al-Malik, on his testimony before the court. He was also reinterrogated by the prosecution and said that some correspondence was referred to the organ chief and that his department was responsible for following up this correspondence through various departments.

The court will reconvene Saturday morning to continue hearing the testimony of the prosecution's seventh witness.

Conspiracy Prisoners Announce Hunger Strike

JN201813 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1738 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Nov (SUNA) — Detainees held in preventive custody for participating in the recent conspiracy have announced an open hunger strike to protest their continued detention. In a memorandum sent to the National Alliance they demanded a meeting with the attorney general in the presence of a delegate from the alliance so that they can find out what is happening. The detainees also accused the attorney general of procrastination and stressed that their alleged involvement is baseless. They also pointed out that they were detained under Article 12 of the State Security Law, not under the Criminal Law of 1983, as the attorney general claims.

Siwar al-Dhahab Returns From Oman Celebrations

JN201753 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Nov (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, returned to the country this evening after a 3-day visit to Oman during which he attended the 15th national day celebrations.

TUNISIA

Premier Interviewed on TU Problems, Libya

PM191515 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 14 Nov 85 p 19

[Interview with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali by Dominique Lagarde in Tunis — date not given]

[Text] *LE QUOTIDIEN*: Habib Achour, Tunisian General Federation of Labor [UGTT] secretary general, has just been placed under house arrest. Why did the government make that decision?

Mohamed Mzali: Because he is a hothead who constantly misleads journalists, spreads false information, and calls on people to take to the streets. We thought it was better to deprive him of all contacts for a short time to maintain law and order. Aside from that, I leave it up to his trade union colleagues to decide what happens. This is a public order measure, which is very temporary. It obviously does not prejudge the results of the inquiries now being conducted. If these inquiries lead to a charge, there is no reason for Mr Achour to be treated differently than other citizens. The matter under investigation is misappropriation, theft, and a break-in at a cooperative in Sfax.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Is it possible then that he could be tried?

Mohamed Mzali: It is up to the legal authorities to decide that. As prime minister I hope that this will not happen, because I know that if he is put in prison everybody will forget the misappropriations and bad management and only remember the prison sentence. Prison is likely to make a martyr of him.

LE QUOTIDIEN: I have met with many prominent independent figures here who say that there was an Achour problem in the UGTT almost a year ago and that, if the government had not interfered in this affair, the trade unionists would probably have solved it without a trial of strength.

Mohamed Mzali: It is true that Achour would have been ousted by his own comrades. I would have preferred not to interfere, but Mr Achour called a general strike in the transport sector on the very day that the wild expulsions of our workers from Libyan began. If he had responded in a patriotic way then, if he had dissociated himself from Libya as I personally asked him to do, things would have been different. But instead he started to insult us and call for my head. If he had adopted a nationalist attitude, the government would never have taken any action against him. Unfortunately it was he who forced us to react.

LE QUOTIDIEN: So is the Tunisian-Libyan crisis the reason for the government's main criticism of Habib Achour and the explanation for the authorities' intervention?

Mohamed Mzali: Originally our disagreement was in the trade union sphere. We had been negotiating for months. He was demanding the continuation of price indexation. I pointed out to him that even the rich countries were now abandoning indexation, and I proposed to see whether it was possible to find funds for increases sector-by-sector by increasing production, improving productivity, and cutting management costs. But instead of understanding the Tunisian economy's problems and adopting a participatory rather than a confrontational attitude, he stuck to his positions and demanded a 15-percent increase. I said to him: "I am willing, but I do not have the money." The Libyan affair came on top of that. Even without it we did not have the means of granting such increases, and therefore, with thousands of expellees on our hands..., we asked him to understand the situation and I told him that we must help each other. However, he issued strike calls.

LE QUOTIDIEN: You want a participatory trade union rather than one which makes demands?

Mohamed Mzali: That is what I am suggesting. I told the UGTT Executive Bureau that I was prepared to allow them to participate in income tax policy and enterprise management. But if they do not want that, that is their business. I will not force them. What will happen is what is happening to the General Labor Confederation in France: The UGTT will collapse. The Tunisian people, like the French people, have had enough of trade union power.

LE QUOTIDIEN: From your viewpoint, is the problem simply Achour as an individual or a UGTT problem?

Mohamed Mzali: I assure you that it is an Achour problem.

LE QUOTIDIEN: So you are pared to continue to negotiate and have discussions with the current UGTT leadership without Achour?

Mohamed Mzali: Of course. Mr Bacchouche, for instance, is somebody who thinks carefully. At the time of the expulsions and the Libyan threats, he made a statement saying that there was the workers' interest but also the national interest. We greatly appreciated that good response. It really is a problem with Achour. At the height of the dispute with Libya, he stated that he would have my head. What is more, it was I who had him released from prison in 1981.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Do you regret doing that?

Mohamed Mzali: Yes, I regret it, because he was not up to it. I told him that.

LE QUOTIDIEN: I would like to turn to your recent speech to parliament, in which you announced the submission before the end of the year of a bill on the status of political parties and another on the revision of the criminal procedure code, especially police custody. What will be the broad outlines of this future charter for parties?

Mohamed Mzali: It is a legal framework which will enable Tunisian citizens to form political parties freely in accordance with the conditions laid down by the head of state in his speech on 10 April 1981: no use of violence, support for the country's progressive achievements — for instance, the status of the individual and the suppression of polygamy, which are irreversible measures — and no ideological or financial dependence on foreign countries. If there were 10 or 20 parties in the future it would not worry me.

LE QUOTIDIEN: So the Islamic Tendency Movement will very probably be legalized?

Mohamed Mzali: If they do not claim to have a monopoly of Islam and if they abandon some of their demands. When I received them they denied asking for a referendum on individual status.

If that is the case, there is no problem. I found them moderate, understanding, and reasonable. They are valuable people and there is no reason to exclude them. I want the next elections to take place as I wanted the 1981 elections to take place. At the time I was trapped myself. I regret that there is no opposition in the assembly. I want the responsible, patriotic oppositionists to play the game with me. In Tunisia there is one party which has a history and legitimacy. If they want to replace it, that will not happen in the near future. On the other hand, if they want to participate, there are ways of achieving that and we can help them to do so.

LE QUOTIDIEN: So, in your view, the multiparty system in Tunisia is more a mode of expression and possible participation by the opposition than a possibility of alternation?

Mohamed Mzali: Exactly. In the same way I want prominent members of the opposition to be appointed to the Economic and Social Council. A dialogue must be established if we do not want it to be the extremists who win.

LE QUOTIDIEN: I would now like to turn to foreign policy. What is the state of your relations with Libya?

Mohamed Mzali: They are bad. The threat is still there.

LE QUOTIDIEN: In what form?

Mohamed Mzali: We may have to face individual attacks or, according to our intelligence service and those of some friendly countries, the appearance of several hundred Tunisians, trained in Libyan camps and infiltrated from Libya, then dressed in Tunisian Army or National Guard uniforms, who would attack some of our garrisons and then claim that part of the country had been "liberated" by the army.

LE QUOTIDIEN: The Tunisian-Libyan crisis seems to have speeded up your rapprochement with Algeria and improved your relations with Egypt....

Mohamed Mzali: With Egypt yes. [Egyptian President Mubarak's Adviser] 'Usamah al-Baz came here after the Libyan attack and then again after the Israeli attack. It is true that without these two attacks there would not have been that contact. Our relations with Algeria have been very close since 1982, and especially since 1983. The Libyan attack gave Algeria an opportunity to show its solidarity with us.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Many Tunisians criticize you for being rather too quick to close the matter after the Israeli raid and the American attitude.

Mohamed Mzali: What could the government have done? Scream, shout? Al-Qadhdhafi, who does nothing but shout, has never endangered America. That barbarous raid was legitimized by the United States. Bourguiba and the Tunisian Government adopted the appropriate attitude. We were very satisfied with international solidarity, including and especially the role played by the U.S. allies, which, combined with Tunisian indignation, led the Americans to refrain from using their veto at the United Nations.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Was there no way of showing the population more clearly that its anger was shared by the government?

Mohamed Mzali: It was expressed, and President Bourguiba himself threatened to sever relations with the United States if it used its UN veto, but you cannot whine forever: You have to think of dressing your wounds. When I said, as I did at the assembly, that Israel is the United States' spoiled child, why add an insult?

LE QUOTIDIEN: What do you think of the anti-American feeling which this affair has created in public opinion?

Mohamed Mzali: It is a legitimate reaction, but Tunisians must think carefully.

ETHIOPIA

DPRK Vice President Meets With Mengistu

EA202124 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam has said that the steadily strengthening relationship between revolutionary Ethiopia and the DPRK has reached a reliable stage. He added that the visit by the vice president of the DPRK and his high-level delegation will make further contribution to this relationship.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, provisional Military Administrative Council chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, said this when he met and held talks with the high-level DPRK delegation, led by Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee Politburo and vice president of the country, at the National Palace this afternoon.

The comrade secretary general said that it was a great pleasure for revolutionary Ethiopia to play host to the high-level delegation from the DPRK, which is a friend of revolutionary Ethiopia.

He added that it was his conviction that during its stay in revolutionary Ethiopia the delegation would be able to take a close look at the general economic, social, and political situation and the accumulation of natural wealth in Ethiopia.

Our comrade revolutionary leader briefed the delegation on the Ethiopian economy, which is based on agriculture. He spoke about the efforts to develop and modernize the agricultural sector of the economy and about ways to make it interdependent with the industrial sector of the economy. He also briefed them on other major activities being carried out in the process of the revolution.

Present during the ceremony were: Comrade Fikre Selassie Wogderes, WPE Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, full and alternate members of the WPE Central Committee Politburo, WPE Central Committee members, ministers, committee heads, and ambassadors of the two countries.

Briefed on 10-Year Plan

EA201557 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0930 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] DPRK Vice President Yi Chong-ok has been briefed on the main objectives of our country's 10-year plan and on Ethiopia's natural wealth and economic development. Comrade Mersie Ejigu, Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee member and minister in the National Committee for Central Planning, gave the briefing to Comrade Yi Chong-ok, Korean Worker's Party Central Committee Politburo member and the country's vice president, and an accompanying delegation.

UGANDA

Okello To Meet With Head of Postal Workers Union

EA201538 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
20 Nov 85 p 2

[Correspondent report from Kampala under the headline "Strike Paralyses Postal, Telex Services in Uganda"]

[Text] Postal and telecommunications services were paralysed today for the second day running because of a total strike over pay and other allowances by about 1,800 employees of the Uganda Posts and Telecommunications Corporation. Workers in the clerical, supervisory, and executive echelons of the corporation went on strike demanding that the minimum salary should go up from sh6,000 [Kenyan shillings] to sh16,200 per month. Housing allowance for the lowest paid worker should also be raised from sh800 to somewhere between sh5,000 and sh10,000. The Military Council chairman and head of state, General Tito Okello Lutwa, was today meeting two top union officials along with the ministers concerned and the posts chairman, Mr S.L. Kibirige.

Meanwhile, fighting seems to have resumed in Masaka town, 80 miles southwest of here, which fell to NRA guerrillas last September. The Roman Catholic newspaper *MUNNO* reported today that fighting had broken out again last Friday around the Army barracks at Kasijjagirwa. Other reports say that the NRA had used government troops who had earlier surrendered at Mbarara town, some 95 miles farther southwest.

Okello Condemns Attack on Masaka Barracks

EA201944 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The Chairman of the Military Council and head of state, General Tito Okello Lutwa, has expressed grave concern about the attack on Masaka Barracks by the National Resistance Army [NRA] on Monday this week. He deplored this escalation of war on the eve of fruitful conclusion of the peace talks in Nairobi.

General Tito Okello Lutwa confirmed that during the fighting in Masaka, Uganda lost a brilliant son and one of the most experienced officers, Col James Tibamuleke. He called upon all peace-loving Ugandans and the world at large to condemn the actions of the NRA which have been persistent throughout the period of the negotiations.

During this period, he said, many lives of innocent Ugandans and their property were lost. The chairman wondered whether the NRA has any respect for the tireless efforts put in the peace process by President Arap Moi as chairman of the peace talks and the former President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania. He reminded the nation of the various personal contacts he has made in Dar es Salaam and in Nairobi to facilitate early conclusion of the peace process. He reiterated the Military Council's position to secure lasting peace through negotiations. He reaffirmed that despite the unfortunate tragedy that befell Masaka and other

parts of Western region, he will encourage the government delegation to continue with the peace talks to a final conclusion.

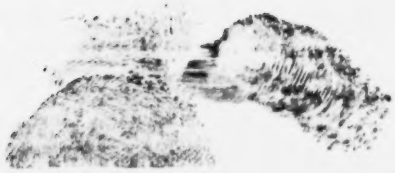
Obote, Former Aides' Bank Accounts Frozen
AB201714 Paris AFP in English 1634 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Kampala, Nov 20 (AFP) — Ugandan Prime Minister Abraham Waliggo has ordered the freezing of bank accounts belonging to ex-president Milton Obote and some of his former top aides, the *STAR* newspaper reported here today. One of the aides, Chris Rwakasisi, minister of state for security under Mr Obote's government, was charged here with murder today.

Mr Waliggo's office would not comment on the *STAR*'s report, which listed some of the frozen accounts as belonging to Mr Obote's defence minister, Peter Otai, his internal affairs minister, John Luwuliza Kirunda, and to Mr Rwakasisi. The newspaper said the accounts of five top military commanders under Mr Obote, including Army Chief of Staff Brigadier Smith Opon Acak, were also frozen. Other accounts frozen were those of Mr Obote's foreign minister, Albert Picho Owiny, and his minister for regional cooperation, Sam Tewungwa.

At the opening of Mr Rwakasisi's trial, the government prosecutor said the former security minister, along with others still at large, had murdered retired civil servant George Kananura Rwabatoto at the southwestern town of Mbarara in February 1981.

Mr Rwakasisi was not asked to plead. He was remanded until December 4. A key member of the regime of Mr Obote, he is believed to have been captured as he tried to escape Uganda after the military coup last July that ousted the Obote government.



CAMEROON

Joint Commission With France Opens in Yaounde

AB202143 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The Franco-Cameroon Joint Commission opened in Yaounde today with Foreign Minister William Eteki Mboumoua declaring that Cameroon was expecting substantial and qualitative assistance from France in its development efforts for the mutual benefit of both countries. The meeting, which opened with pledges of commitment and solidarity from both delegations, was appraised by Mr Eteki as particularly important because Cameroon is in the process of inaugurating the Sixth 5-Year Development Plan, which he said could not be fully realized by Cameroon alone.

Christian Nucci, the head of the French delegation and minister delegate to the Ministry of External Relations for cooperation and development, said France would do everything possible to solidify the existing cooperation ties with Cameroon. He praised Cameroon's efforts in developing its economy, and pledged an increase in French financial and technical assistance to Cameroon. Prominent topics to be discussed during the 3-day working session are the movement of persons and goods between the two countries; the problems faced by the Cameroon community in France and vice-versa; the application of the judicial agreement of 1974; the training, internship, scholarship, and certificate equivalence of Cameroonians studying in France. It should be noted that the development of maritime traffic and projects on the Kribi and Cape Limbe (?Peak) ports, and the relationship between Cameroon Airlines and Air France will also be discussed.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Financial Agreement for Loan Signed With OPEC

AB201837 Dakar PANA in English 1724 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Vienna, 20 Nov (OPECNA/PANA) — The Central African Republic and the OPEC Fund for International Development signed today an agreement for a loan of U.S. dollars 1.7 million to finance work on the Bangui-ymbi road. The major objective of the project is to rehabilitate the Avenue de l'Independance which constitutes one of the main roads of the capital city of Bangui and is part of the road leading to Ymbi. The rehabilitated avenue will provide better access for the people living in and around the commercial and residential areas of the city. In addition the project includes a training program to ensure the maintenance of Bangui's road network largely by national personnel once the rehabilitation has taken place. The load is the fourth made by OPEC Fund to the Central African Republic. The previous loans consisted of a balance of payments support loan and two project loan — a highway rehabilitation project and the Bangui Mpoko International Airport project.

Today's agreement brings the total amount of lending by the OPEC Fund to the Central African Republic to U.S. dollars 8.85 million. In addition, a grant of U.S. dollars 1.03 million was extended to the Central African Republic to cover its subscription to the capital of the common fund for commodities. The loan agreement was signed at the OPEC Fund Headquarters by Mr Nestor Kombot-Naguemon, ambassador in Bonn, on behalf of the Central African Republic, and by Mr (Osama) Faquih, deputy minister of finance and national economy of Saudi Arabia [title as received] and chairman of the governing board of the OPEC Fund.

CHAD

Bardai: GUNT, CSR Members Hold Informal Meeting

AB201340 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1830 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] An informal meeting of members of the Supreme Council of the Revolution [CSR] and the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] present in Bardai was held under the chairmanship of the comrade chairman of the CSR and GUNT, Goukouni Oueddei, at the presidential palace.

Accompanied by Comrade Ramat Alkhali and (Asser Oumar), administrative secretary of the CSR who is acting for the secretary general in his absence, and Acheikh Ibn Oumar, minister of state for coordination, the head of state congratulated the new political leaders. He also paid tribute to members of the former National Liberation Council [CNL] and the GUNT for their appreciable political work accomplished during the very difficult period and which led to the creation of the CSR and the new GUNT. The comrade chairman of the CSR and GUNT also praised the work of the people's commissioners and cadres for the continuity of the struggle against international imperialism. Turning again to the CSR and GUNT members, Comrade Chairman Goukouni Oueddei underlined the great importance of their mission in the present stage. We should from now on speak only one language — that of unity, he noted. The comrade chairman of the CSR and GUNT also stressed the fact that henceforth the general interest overrides selfish and personal interests.

It should be noted that at the end of the meeting, a joint CSR-GUNT delegation led by the comrade administrative secretary was sent of Libya to have contacts with the Chadian community in the Jamahiriyah.

Visit of Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi to Dakar Viewed

AB202203 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpts] According to news reports, Al-Qadhdhafi will make an official visit to Senegal, a country which has not maintained diplomatic relations with Libya since the era of President Leopold Sedar Senghor. Al-Qadhdhafi will reportedly examine the Chadian problems with the Senegalese head of state, who is also the current OAU chairman.

First of all, in terms of information, it has been announced that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi will visit Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, who is also the chairman of the pan-African organization.

We must underline the (?possible) repercussions of the visit. In the first place, with regard to bilateral relations, Al-Qadhdhafi and President Diouf are free and sovereign to discuss such relations between Libya and Senegal. But at the international level, and considering the implications of the visit on the basis of certain facts, it is the OAU chairman that Al-qadhdhafi the terrorist is going to meet. The dispatch which brought us this information is clear about this: The Chadian question will come up in the discussions between the two heads of state — Libyan and Senegalese.

As a matter of fact, the Tripoli colonel plans to ask the current OAU chairman to accept Libya's proposal to send to Chad a buffer force — a neutral force — the members of which will be provided by him, Col al-Qadhdhafi. In this regard, an observation must be made. We say observation; it is an observation which shows Al-Qadhdhafi's ulterior motive: What does he mean by neutral force? Another question one might ask is the following: He proposes the stationing of a buffer force, or a neutral force in Chad, but what are the forces present in the field requiring the stationing of a buffer force? What is the rationale behind such a force?

We know that the Chadian conflict is between the Libyan occupation force and the Chadian Government. What we cannot understand in Al-Qadhdhafi's reasoning is his belief that Libya can send forces to Chad, unless he simply wants to imply that this is the way he can increase the strength of his troops in Chad.

Actually, Al-Qadhdhafi wants to divert attention from the successes we have been achieving for a long time thanks to our policy of dialogue and economic reorganization. On the political front the Codos [commando units] have massively gone over to the government side. Evidence of this is the recent arrival of more than 1,200 Codos in various towns in compliance with the agreement signed by the government and the mobile intervention force, FMI. Another success achieved by Chad is the recent meeting in Libreville between the Coordination and Action Council and the Government of the Third Republic which signed a reconciliation accord.

In addition to these political achievements, [words indistinct] Chad will soon go to Geneva to propose its interim development plan. For Al-Qadhdhafi, this is all unacceptable from a country which he wanted to bring to its knees in order to compel its leaders to yield to his annexation designs. This is Al-Qadhdhafi's concern. In fact he is trying to break free from the isolation in which his policy of occupation, constant aggression, and terrorism has led him. Though no one can prevent Al-Qadhdhafi from (?cheating), we are convinced that President Diouf, who knows the Chadian problem very well, will not fail — as an outstanding statesman — to remind his guest of the need to respect national borders, the sovereignty, and independence of states. In fact, Dakar recognizes that the only legitimate regime is the one in Ndjamena, whose preoccupation is national reconciliation among all the children of Chad for the reconstruction of the country in unity and national concord; and Libya cannot claim to be the sponsor of the Chadian Government.

GABON

Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives, Holds Talks

LD210009 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] [Tunisian] Foreign Minister Beji Caid Es-Sebsi, arrived yesterday evening in Libreville for a 3-day official visit leading a delegation. The foreign minister expressed on arrival his satisfaction at the excellent relations between Tunisia and Gabon and his hope that the visit will contribute to the consolidation of these relations and cooperation between the two friendly countries.

This morning he had talks with his Gabonese opposite number which dealt with the political situation and bilateral relations. A working session followed these talks which was held in a fraternal atmosphere and during which the means and ways capable of developing cooperation and the identification of sectors of common interest were discussed and the various agreements to be signed were studied.

BURKINA FASO

4 Financing Agreements Signed With France

AB201120 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Four financing agreements totaling 267.5 million CFA francs were signed yesterday between France and our country at the Ministry of Financial Resources. This important amount of money will help to finance, among other things, current expenses in the economic and financial services to the tune of 17.5 million CFA francs, and the first phase of the agricultural fertilizer project to the tune of 25 million CFA francs. The money will also help to finance the second phase of the hydro-agricultural development project of Savili, and the first phase of the rural development project of (Lupe-Zergo). These two development projects cost 60 million and 165 million CFA francs respectively.

GHANA

Liberian Charges on Coup Involvement Viewed

AB201520 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Commentary by Arthur Money of the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation's News and Current Affairs Division]

[Text] Out of the blue, the Liberian Government has accused Ghana of being involved in last Tuesday's abortive coup in that country. Specifically, Liberia said Ghana was one of the countries from which some of those who allegedly took part in the rebellion originated. In fact, one should have thought that this accusation, childish as it is, would have been treated with the contempt in deserves. But the government last Monday deemed it necessary to clear the air and to restate the PNDC's [Provisional National Defense Council] belief in the sovereignty and territorial inviolability of states including Liberia and in the policy of good-neighborliness. An official statement emphasized that no Ghanaian was recruited to take part in the attempted coup, neither did the government at any time have any knowledge of nor play any part whatsoever in plans to overthrow the Government of Liberia.

Ghana, it should be pointed out, is not at loggerheads with Liberia. Ghana does not envy Liberia's efforts to return to civilian rule and Ghana does not seek to export its revolution to Liberia. And so, the accusation of being behind the attempted coup is unjustifiable and without foundation. Head of state, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Doe — as he prefers to be called — cannot claim to be unaware of the causal factors for that attempt. In fact, one does not need to be a brainy political analyst to be able to fathom those factors. In other words, everybody knew something like that was in the offing to sort of venge the people's wrath at events of recent past in Liberia.

From the look of things, the list of countries allegedly connected has no limit. At this stage, Liberia should be told plainly that political ploy to divert the people's attention from the resentments at home has backfired and the earlier the Doe government sets out to repair the country's damaged image, the better. As if by design, some West African states have, of late, taken delight in mounting a propaganda campaign to paint Ghana in a very bad light. Yesterday, it was Togo; today, it is Liberia. And nobody knows which country will follow. Indisputably, Ghana is on the way of capturing her former position as the black star of Africa. One would therefore not want to think that all this mudslinging and the perpetration of mendacity form part of a calculated plan to put spokes on Ghana's forward march.

As the official statement has stressed, Ghana will continue to be guided by the principles of good-neighborliness and noninterference in the home affairs of any state in the interest of peace and progress on the African Continent in general and the subregion in particular. In the name of all that is vital for cordiality, cooperation, and the politico-economic advancement of Africa, this undeclared diplomatic war against Ghana must stop.

Close Scrutiny of Evangelical Sects Urged

AB201050 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *GHANAIAN TIMES* calls for a closer look at the operations of some of the evangeligal sects with a view to drawing up a framework within which they must operate. According to the paper, it has received numerous letters from the public expressing concern about the upsurge in religious fundamentalism and the rate at which numerous evangelists, especially from the United States, had been let loose on the country. The *TIMES* feels there is a bait in this. This is because manipulators seeking their selfish interests can use the situation to hypnotize large numbers of people to look to life after death for an answer to their problems instead of doing something practical to create at least a semblance of the heavenly society on the earth.

The paper says it is aware of the contribution of some of these foreign evangelical groups to the development of the rural areas. An event such as the Gospel Aid Musical fund-raising night to raise money for the OAU special emergency fund for drought victims in Africa held in Accra last weekend are examples of worthy emulation. However, those evangelical groups who abuse the name of God for their personal or sectional [as heard] interests must be condemned by all means.

LIBERIA

Further on Coup Attempt; Trial To Begin 'Immediately'

Doe Promises Fairness

AB201735 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The Government of Liberia has announced that the trial of those who were implicated in last week's failed coup, led by the late Thomas Quiwonkpa, is to begin immediately. The national radio station quoted an Executive Mansion press release issued in Monrovia today: All civilians and political leaders

implicated in the plot will be tried by a civil court, while all military and paramilitary personnel involved will be tried by the Special Military Tribunal.

The head of state, Commander in Chief Samuel Doe has meanwhile said, those involved in the failed coup plot will be given a speedy and fair trial. Concluding, the head of state said he believed in the rule of law.

Training in Sierra Leone

AB211106 Paris AFP in English 1054 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Monrovia, Nov 21 (AFP) — A captured rebel said to have taken part in last week's attempt to topple Liberian head of state Samuel Doe said on state television last night he was one of many mercenaries recruited in neighbouring Sierra Leone by coup leader Thomas Quiwonkpa.

The man, who gave his name as Lamine Kamara and spoke in the variant of Creole used in Sierra Leone, said he and other mercenaries were trained at Camp Siaki, where Sierra Leone's special security detachment is based. Mr Kamara said they were escorted in a Sierra Leone police lorry to the Liberian border, where they joined other rebels for the land journey to Monrovia. General Doe last week accused Sierra Leone of active involvement in staging the coup, recalled his ambassador in Freetown and said the joint border, closed after the coup, would not be reopened. The authorities in Freetown have denied the allegations.

Minister Interviewed

AB201758 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Acting labor minister, John C.L. Mason, has appealed to all workers in public and private sectors to return to work. Mr Mason observed that from all indications it was evident that government was in complete control of affairs and that workers of confections and business houses, as well as other sectors of the economy would resume normal operation. Mr Mason, who was speaking yesterday in an interview with the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, said he regretted the November 12 incident in which innocent citizens and Army personnel loyal to the head of state lost their lives. He later thanked God for sparing the life of the head of state who, he said, demonstrated his military expertise in crushing the forces of evil. Meanwhile, Minister Mason has expressed thanks and appreciation to the head of state and deputy vice head of state for reinstating him as acting labor minister.

University President Speaks

AB201801 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The president of the University of Liberia, Dr Joseph Morris, today assured students of the university that they will not be molested by soldiers while on campus. Mr Morris, who was speaking to the students on the main campus of the university, urged them to remain committed to their studies and not to engage in acts that would detract their attention from their studies. He told the students that efforts were being made to schedule some classes at the university on Saturdays to make up for the time lost in the wake of the crisis.

Dr Morris then warned the students against acts that will lead to the closure of the university, adding: If the university is closed by government, I cannot guarantee its reopening.

Later the students appealed to Dr Morris to ensure that soldiers assigned at the university entrance did not move about the main campus and around classrooms while schools were in session because they said this would instill fear in them.

The students asked Mr Morris to appeal to the proper authorities to extend the curfew hours in order to fully accomodate those students with evening classes.

Responding to the students' appeal, Dr Morris said he does not have control over the situation, however he expects every student of the university to remain law-abiding while the administration tries to find means of resolving the problems affecting the normal academic programs of the institution.

MALI

UAE President Concludes Visit; Communique Issued

AB211703 Dakar PANA in French 1458 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Bamako, 20 Nov (APS-ALG/PANA) — Mali and the United Arab Emirates on Tuesday reaffirmed their support for the struggle engaged by the Palestinian and Namibian peoples for their right to independence, and they paid homage to the Nonaligned Movement which is fighting for the restoration of a new order of international relations based on the principles of freedom and independence.

In a joint communique issued at the end of the official visit to Mali by the president of the United Arab Emirates, Shaykh Sayid Ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, during which he held discussions with the President Moussa Traore, the two countries expressed their approval for the principle to organize an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, and with the participation of all the parties in conflict including the PLO.

In this regard, the two countries stated that any solution to the Middle East crisis should take into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to return to occupied Palestine and establish an independent state under the leadership of the PLO, its sole legitimate representative.

Presidents Traore and Sayid Ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan condemned the Israeli aggression against Tunisia and the terrorist and repressive policy of the Zionists in Palestine.

Minister of Planning Meets With Burkinabe Envoy

AB201745 Paris AFP in French 1212 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Bamako, 20 Nov (AFP) — Pierre Ilboudo, the Burkinabe head of state's diplomatic councillor, was received yesterday evening in audience by General Amadou Baba Diarra, the Malian minister of state for planning and deputy secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] — the sole Malian political party.

According to Radio Mali, the strengthening of the cooperation between Mali and Burkina Faso has been discussed during the discussions. Observers think that the holding of the next summit of the West African Economic Community [CEAO — composed of Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, and Senegal] in the Burkinabe capital was probably discussed. This summit is scheduled to particularly examine the problem of the expulsion of Mali's Idrissa Keita, the secretary general of the CEAO from Ouagadougou where the headquarters of the organization is located. Mr Keita continues to run the CEAO from Bamako.

NIGERIA

Banks Offering Foreign Currency Accounts Increase

AB202117 Paris AFP in English 1842 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Lagos, Nov 20 (AFP) — Nigeria today increased the number of commercial banks authorized to open no-questions-asked foreign currency accounts from four to 16, the government said.

The move was seen as an attempt to make it [word indistinct] for foreign companies to open offices here and to encourage Nigerians with overseas bank accounts to bring their money back into their country.

The measure affects commercial banks, which have both corporate and individual accounts, but not merchant banks, which have only corporate accounts. The accounts can be held in dollars, pounds sterling, French and Swiss francs and Deutsche marks, a government communique said.

The decree stipulates that no money imported for the so-called foreign currency domiciliary accounts "would be [words indistinct] or [word indistinct] or suffer any form of expropriation" by the government.

Analysts here said the move was not likely immediately to attract large deposits from Nigerians with overseas funds. But they stressed that it was a positive step that would contribute to improving the investment climate in Nigeria, which faces major financial problems.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos, Castro Exchange Messages on Ties

MB200737 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Fidel Castro, the heads of state of Angola and Cuba, have reaffirmed the long-standing ties of friendship and solidarity between the two peoples which have demonstrated to the world one of the greatest examples of proletariat internationalism. In messages to each other on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Angola and Cuba, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Fidel Castro expressed their satisfaction with the successes achieved in their relations and cooperation in the political, economic, and social fields. The two statesmen blamed the governments of Pretoria and Washington for the present situation in southern Africa, pointing out that the intensification of the South African policy of aggression created a climate of instability in the continent.

Planning Minister Discusses Relations With Portugal

MB201007 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] In an interview with *EXPRESSO* newspaper, Lopo do Nascimento, the minister of planning, once again examined relations between Angola and Portugal, which are characterized by ambiguity on the part of the Lisbon government's policy toward Angola. He added that the absence of clarity in this policy and other diplomatic issues have led to the fact that Portuguese companies in Angola experience the same difficulties as other companies. He noted that this would not have been the case had relations been good, taking into account the role Portuguese companies can play because of their knowledge of Angolan needs, established infrastructures, and the existing common language.

The diplomatic issue is essentially related to the impunity with which the puppet gangs act in Lisbon and the support they receive, a situation that no longer exists in some countries with which Angola maintains trade relations. Minister Lopo do Nascimento pointed out that the Lisbon government, like other countries, should increase the level of relations and the granting of credits to Angola. As for Angola, it finances Portugal in as much as the outflow of goods and services presents a credit balance for the Portuguese economy.

The Angolan minister of planning devoted part of his interview with the Portuguese newspaper to the situation in Angola. Lopo do Nascimento revealed that during the 10 years of independence, South African acts of aggression had resulted in over $8 billion worth of damage. Other long-term losses include the death of civilians and the mobilization of cadres and other workers to the tasks of defense. According to the Angolan official, the 10 years of our country's independence has meant 10 years of struggle to preserve liberty. Despite this, he noted, the nation experienced economic growth. Apart from the field of oil, major investments were made in the coffee industry which is another major foreign exchange earner.

Envoy Criticizes UNITA Activity in Portugal

MB201752 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Comrade Joao Mwaete Baptista, Angolan ambassador to Portugal, said that the Angolan Government hopes that the new Portuguese leaders will be able to strengthen bilateral cooperation within the international law that regulates relations between states.

In a dispatch issued at the end of a visit to Oporto by Comrade Mwaete Joao Baptista, ANGOP cited the Angolan ambassador as saying that the free activity of the UNITA puppets in Portugal continues to be the main obstacle for the normalization of the relations between the two countries. There are political forces in Portugal that still do not recognize Angola's independence. They support bandits that claim to be freedom fighters, said ANGOP, citing Ambassador Mwaete Joao Baptista.

The Angolan ambassador to Portugal visited in Oporto the (Judite e Alho) canned goods enterprise (Portex) (Vilalva) and (enterprise Califa) manufacturing enterprises. He also held talks with managers and businessmen from several countries with financial interests in Oporto. Comrade Mwaete Joao Baptista chaired a political and cultural meeting in Oporto where Angolan, Portuguese, and Cape Verdean musicians participated last Friday.

24 UNITA 'Bandits' Killed in Chitembo Operations

MB201137 Luanda ANGOP in English 1119 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Luanda, Nov 20 (ANGOP) — Twenty four bandits of UNITA puppet group backed by the racist South Africa regime were killed by Angolan defense and security forces in recent operations carried out in the municipality of Chitembo, Bie Province, an official source told ANGOP. According to the source, during these cleaning up operations against UNITA counterrevolutionaries, Angolan defense and security forces have rescued 32 people from the bandits' captivity and seized a great quantity of war material.

BOTSWANA

Minister Denies Allegations on Refugee Settlement

MB200945 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] The minister for presidential affairs and public administration, Mr Ponatshego Kedikilwe, has stated categorically that the Botswana Government could not under any circumstances permit the Dukwe refugee settlement to be used as a recruiting and training center for dissidents. Mr Kedikilwe made this assurance in parliament yesterday, in response to recent allegations that the Kudwe refugee settlement was used as a recruiting center and training camp for Zimbabwean dissidents.

He also said he would like to refer to allegations that the dissidents were being trained in South Africa and infiltrated into Zimbabwe through Botswana. He recalled that these allegations

have appeared in the Zimbabwean press and had been intimated to certain senior Zimbabwean officials. The minister said these refugees at Dukwe will (?indulge) fully all the consequences of ignoring the government policy.

He emphasized that the government can also no longer allow dissidents to infiltrate into Zimbabwe through Botswana. He noted that similar assurances had been given by the government in the past, and said Botswana is thoroughly disappointed, therefore, that allegations of this nature are still being made. He stressed that Botswana has nothing to hide and that if anyone has any concrete information to support these allegations, they should give such information to Botswana, so that appropriate action may be taken.

Mr Kedikilwe regretted that although the policy of the government on refugees had been restated on many occasions, it appeared that doubts still existed in certain quarters regarding this policy. He noted that it had always been the policy of successive governments of this country to grant political asylum to the genuine refugees. He stated that this policy stems from Botswana's international obligations arising from the 1951 convention relating to the status of refugees to which Botswana is a signatory. Mr Kedikilwe explained that in granting political asylum to refugees, Botswana is motivated by humanitarian considerations and that actions in this (?regard) may not in any way imply hostility to other governments of the countries from which the refugees come. He said refugees living in this country were to refrain from any acts of hostilities towards their home countries.

2 'Prominent' BDP Members Join Opposition BNF

MB201855 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Two prominent members of the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP], Mr Botshabelo Bagwasi and Mr (Raphael Sekoane), have defected to the opposition Botswana National Front [BNF]. Mr Bagwasi is the former mayor of Gaborone and deputy secretary general of the BDP, and Mr (Sekoane) is a prominent businessman. The two have confirmed the report of the defection in separate telephone interviews.

In a statement released today, the BNF secretary for publicity, information and propaganda, Mr Paul Rantau, said the two men would certainly add a vital dimension to what he called the ever-growing strength and political power of the BNF. Mr Rantau said the BNF admired the courage and honesty of the two men for joining the party at the opportune time when trite talk and what he called cover-up of official corruption are battling and have to battle fiercely. [sentence as heard] Mr Rantau said the two men were some of the few BDP intellectuals and that the departure had make a big crack on the walls of the brain tank of the BDP.

For their part, Mr Bagwasi and Mr (Sekoane) told BOPA that by joining the BNF, they were exercizing their constitutional right to associate with any organization of their choice. Mr Bagwasi said he had come to admire the policies and programs of the BNF. Mr (Sekoane) said that in the rapidly changing society there was bound to be political realignment. Last year, Mr Bagwasi dismissed rumors that he had joined the BNF and said at that time that he was a life member of the BDP. Efforts to get comments from the BDP were not fruitful.

SOUTH AFRICA

President Botha, TBVC Leaders Begin Meeting

MB210759 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0755 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 21, SAPA — The heads of state summit meeting between South Africa and its four independent homelands began at the Union Building in Pretoria today and was preceded by a 21-gun salute and a SA Air Force fly past.

Leaders of the delegations from South Africa, Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei [TBVC] arrived in the Union Buildings amphitheatre, where they took the salute from the state president's guard and the various national anthems were played.

The summit meeting, the first since multilateral cooperation between the SATBVC states was formalised at a meeting in 1982, will be chaired by the state president, Mr. P.W. Botha.

Among the issues observers expect to be on the agenda are common South African citizenship for residents of the independent homelands and Mr Botha's recently announced plans to bring blacks into the President's Council.

The heads of states attending the summit are Transkei Prime minister, Chief George Matanzima, Bophuthatswana's acting president, Mr Kgosi Motsatsi, Venda President Patrick Mpephu, and Ciskeian President Lennox Sebe, each accompanied by several cabinet ministers and senior officials.

Mr Botha will be joined at the summit by the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, and the minister for constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis.

Nel Speaks on West's Attitude Toward Apartheid

MB200853 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0841 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 20, SAPA — The South African Government had broken completely with the past, abandoning old policies, and a new era had dawned, the deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel, said in West Germany today.

But the Western world had completely failed to come to grips with the realities of southern Africa — to the detriment of its own as well as the region's interests, he said in an address in Munich at an international symposium arranged by the Hanns Seidel Stiftung on Policy and Strategy.

A copy of his prepared speech was released in Pretoria.

"If the Western world could rid itself of its prejudices and look objectively at the realities of the region, it would adopt a different approach," Mr Nel said.

The Southern African region had become one of the focal points in the "battle between East and West," and while the United States and its allies presently held the edge over the Soviets in the region, its position and sphere of influence was at stake.

"This is not because South Africa will shift its allegiance — which it will not do — but because some Western governments, business corporations and pressure groups are pursuing a policy direction which can only weaken the West in favour of the Soviet Union in this important region of the world.

"If this trend continues, elements hostile to the West will eventually hold the Western world to ransom to the cost of us all," the deputy minister said.

He reiterated his government's committment to improving relations with African states, detailing the existing extensive trade and other ties with many of them.

"South Africa remains, on the basis of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and on the basis of equality between states, prepared to play an even more positive role in the development of our whole region in order to eliminate hunger, illiteracy and to improve the standard of living of all the peoples of the region.

"Some Western countries, however, have adopted an approach towards South Africa which is totally contrary to the long-term interests of the southern African region and to the interests of the Western world," he said.

The fact that the African National Congress and the South-West Africa People's Organisation were "truly terrorist" organisations was too often ignored.

"We are furthermore astonished that most Western countries seem to ignore the fact that the ANC is committed to a Marxist-Socialist state in South Africa, which, in its own words, will include the nationalisation of industries and the limitation of private ownership," he said.

Sanctions and disinvestment and the threat of these were counterproductive and against Western interests.

Another aspect of the contrary approach of the West was that it failed to give recognition to the reforms already accomplished in South Africa and South Africa's committment to further reform.

"...It is to the detriment of the West and the whole southern African region that the important role of moderate, dynamic black, coloured and Asian leaders is not sufficiently recognised," he said.

The success of the reform process in South Africa up to now and the firm committment of the South African Government to further reform seemed not to have been properly considered.

"If the cardinal role of South Africa in influencing the future of this region is ignored, the Western world will lose this sphere of interest and all the people of this region will suffer."

In the interests of not only the people of the region, but also of the Western world, the South African Government felt the West should follow a number of guidelines towards southern Africa, Mr Nel said. The ANC and its supporters should not be embraced by Western governments, but ostracised, Mr Nel said.

The world business community should also be encouraged to invest in the South African economy to eliminate unemployment and to improve the quality of life for all South Africans, irrespective of race or colour. Unemployment led to misery and frustration and polarisation of communities which in turn retarded the process of reform, Mr Nel said.

"By encouraging investment in South Africa, the West could indeed play an important and positive role in creating conditions in South Africa which will not only be conducive to further reform, but which will also accelerate the reform process."

The commitment of the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, to further change and reform within South Africa should be universally acceptable as conforming to Western civilised norms.

"In this the South African president's approach and commitment deserve outspoken support by all who have the interests of the peoples of southern Africa at heart," he said.

It was also important that the West gave greater recognition to moderate black South African leaders. The West seemed to be concerned, if not obsessed, with those leaders in South Africa who were in favour of violent or revolutionary change.

"The time has come for the West to pay more attention to, and grant more credibility to those leaders who, although opposed to apartheid and the status quo, are willing, in a constructive manner, to sit around a table with the government to thrash out, through negotiation, a new constitutional dispensation which ultimately would be acceptable to all reasonable leaders, both black, coloured, Asian and white," Mr Nel said.

"Our government has broken completely with the past. A new era has dawned upon South Africa. Old policies have been abandoned. New horisons have been created for power-sharing by black, coloured, Indian and white population groups."

BBC Interviews PFP's Slabbert on Unrest Situation

MB200905 London BBC World Service in English 0709 GMT 20 Nov 85

[From the "24 Hours" program]

[Text] In recent weeks, a rather different sort of news blackout had descended on South Africa, where the authorities have banned the reporting of unrest in the black townships subject to the state of emergency. Despite this, of course news still gets out though it is hard to corroborate. The police say five people died in a fresh wave of violence yesterday. The leader of the main

white opposition party, the Progressive Federals, Dr Frederick van zyl Slabbert, is in London at the moment, and Richard Kershaw asked him if he thought the government could keep the lid on the continuing unrest in the townships.

[Begin recording] [Van zyl Slabbert] Yes, I think one has to be quite brutally frank about this. I think it would be a gross misrepresentation of that situation to think that the security structure is about to crumble. I think that through coercive measures, through extension of repression, the government can maintain some kind of stability but at considerable cost to the quality of life and particularly at considerable cost to intergroup relations between white and black.

[Kershaw] One has always as an outsider felt that the apartheid system would eventually collapse from internal pressures, not external ones. What are the internal pressures now?

[Van zyl Slabbert] Well, I think what we have seen happen over the last 5 years is a period of rapid black urbanization which has brought about enormous internal pressures particulary in the urban black townships, and I think the violence we see there is a manifestation of that crisis of urbanization. Another very important internal pressure is the black labor movements that have developed over the last 5 or 10 years. I think also economic pressure, really. Even the pressure brought about by the business community is something that one should not ignore.

[Kershaw] The government does appear to be facing both ways. It is talking of reform — progressive reform — while stressing security and building it up. Which tendency is winning?

[Van zyl Slabbert] Well, I think at the moment we are trapped in a cycle of repression and revolt, and unfortunately in this escalating cycle of repression and revolt, reform is taking a back seat, and one of the difficulties, I think, is that nobody, including the government, has any clear idea of exactly what the government has in mind when it talks about reform, and until you can get an acceptable definition of reform — and by acceptable not only to the government but also to (?all) those who are supposed to be the beneficiaries of reform — I am afraid we are going to be trapped in this cycle of repression and revolt.

[Kershaw] Internationally, there is a lot of talk of putting pressure on the government to try and make up the government's mind which way to go. What will you be saying to the British Government and others here about external pressures, and particularly about sanctions?

[Van zyl Slabbert] I think it is very important to realize that a punitive posture externally — in other words, if you do not do (?x and y) we are going to do the following — punitive posture can cost an external factor such as Britain, or United States, or any other foreign country, a lot of leverage. In other words, it is very important to exert pressure that is productive of internal change, and therefore I think it is important to distinguish between a desire to punish on the one hand, which can be understandable in terms of international revulsion with apartheid, and the ability to change the domestic situation.

[Kershaw] Now you are a small party; the politics in your country are getting increasingly polarized. What part do you think you can play in this increasingly dramatic play of forces?

[Van zyl Slabbert] Well, I think one important contribution that we can make, and I believe we have to continue making, is not to create the impression that it is a monolithic white laager facing a black majority or facing a hostile outside world, that we have to make the point that there are a significant percentage of whites — and in this case between 18 and 20 percent of the white electoral supported [as heard] — are not in the white laager camp, as it were, and that are committed to a nonracial democracy and that are committed to getting rid of apartheid. That is the first important point. Second one is that we can engage the government to highlight the inadequecy of the apartheid policy and spell out alternatives. Thirdly, I think it is very important to break out of the white electoral structure or system and strike allegiances or alliances outside of parliament with other movements and organizations committed to the dismantling of apartheid. And fourthly, on an international level, to seek contacts and explain the complexity of the South African situation in a way in which government cannot.[end recording]

PFP Member Favors Scrapping Group Areas Act

MB201652 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1546 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] President's Council, Nov 20, SAPA — The entire Group Areas Act should be scrapped because it affected economic issues and was an impediment to the development of a healthy economy, Mr James Rennie, a PFP [Progressive Federal Party] member of the President's Council, said today. Mr Rennie was speaking during the council's debate on the report of its economic affairs committee on "a strategy for small business development and deregulation," which was tabled today.

While the committee had been asked by the state president to examine the aspects of the Group Areas Act which affected only economic issues, he had a problem because the entire act, as it stood, was a major obstacle to the development of a healthy economy.

In evidence to the committee, the act had been cited "time and time again" as an impediment to economic activity. Five members of the committee had submitted written requests that the repeal of the act should form part of the recommendations.

Referring to Section 19 (as amended) and Section 49A of the act, Mr Rennie said he did not dispute that the legislation would result in the opening up of more business areas.

"My contention is that I do not believe it will ensure the opening of all business areas," he said.

Allowing local authorities to apply for the opening of business areas could lead to "white anting" [as received] at local level. "What happens in towns where applications for free trading areas are not initiated?" he said.

Measures proposed in the report amounted to fiddling while the townships burned. "I believe the only solution is to scrap the Group Areas Act in toto." He said the act had led to artificial population densities and artificial property prices and he believed that land ownership should be removed from the political arena. There were many restrictive laws in South Africa. "If we are to further private initiative and effective competition we will have to stop merely talking about the existing economy as a free market economy and actually institute effective measures to advance in this direction," Mr Rennie said. He also called for the deregulation of the agricultural industry and an end to interference by development boards (formerly administration boards) in the free flow of labour.

Parliamentarians Visit Port Elizabeth Prison

MB210517 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] A group of parliamentarians who are investigating the lot of people detained under the emergency regulations today visited the St Alban's Prison in Port Elizabeth. The tour, like the one last week of jails on the Witwatersrand, was at the invitation of the Department of Prisons. Today Denie Hefer spoke to members of the group, and found a measure of sympathy with the detainees.

[Begin recording] [Tiaan van der Merwe, Progressive Federal Party] They are being held in terms of emergency regulations. They have not been tried, they have not been charged, and they do not expect that it would happen to them, and therefore the mere deprival of their freedom is, to me, unacceptable, from both the moral principle point of view, and also in practice.

[Jan Grobler, National Party, in Afrikaans] Of vital importance, I think, is a tendency which has emerged among the young ones, 16-, 18-, 20-year-olds, whom I especially set myself to speak with. Many students, particularly matriculants, expressed the wish that they be set free as soon as possible to be able to write the matriculation final examination. But there was difinitely a difference between those youths who want to write the matriculation examination and other groups whom we also met, who are aggressive and who clearly have no interest in negotiation and the solution of the problem.

[Mr Dennis de la Cruz, Democratic Workers Party] Today I am more convinced than ever before that the whole system of detention without trial in South Africa should be scrapped, or at least reviewed, at this point in time. To have a number of young people, young students, being kept here in the idle way in which they are being kept is a complete waste of time, money, and energy. [end recording]

Further on Prison Tour

MB210519 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2104 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 20, SAPA — The leader of the opposition in the House of Representatives, Mr. D.T. de la Cruz, said tonight that his Democratic Workers Party was planning to pay detainees in the peninsula a visit early next week.

"I call for the immediate release of all detainees and I charge the government to charge or release detainees immediately," Mr de la Cruz said. He said he had visited St Alban's Prison in Port Elizabeth today as a member of the parliamentary standing committee on health and welfare.

"The detainees at St Alban's, unlike those at Pretoria and Johannesburg, were very eager to speak to all of us regardless of our political affiliations," he said.

"There were a number of allegations of police brutality and harassment at the point of detention. I found no evidence of any malpractice or maltreatment since they arrived at the prison.

"I do feel that it is a tremendous waste of money, talent and energy to keep so many young people behind bars without charging them and we are creating a great opportunity for them to get together to build up a great well of bitterness inside them against the regime. Some of them have a great intellectual background and there are little or no activities for them except the one hour of exercise," he said.

Prison Officials Decline Comment on Mandela Release

MB201838 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1823 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 20, SAPA — Unconfirmed reports that imprisoned African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela's release from life imprisonment was imminent were met with a "no comment" from South African Prison Service officials tonight. According to the reports Nelson Mandela was expected to be released from prison in Cape Town soon.

A spokesman for the SA Prisons Service in Pretoria said tonight that the official line was: "The service is not prepared to comment on speculation and rumour."

Mandela, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 recently underwent an operation to remove his prostate gland at the Volks Hospitaal in Cape Town following reports that he had been ill. Shortly after the operation, prison service spokesmen reported Mandela's doctors as saying that he was recuperating well and was back on his normal diet.

Earlier this year the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, offered to release Mandela on condition that he renounce violence as a means of bringing about change in South Africa. In a message relayed through his daughter, Miss Zinzi Mandela, at a mass meeting in Soweto, Mandela rejected Mr Botha's offer outright.

Mandela's wife, Mrs Winnie Mandela, who is officially restricted to the Brandfort magisterial district in the Orange Free State in terms of a banishment order, announced a few days ago that she would be staying in Cape Town to be near her husband until he had recovered from the operation.

Mandela Family on Release

MB210623 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] The Prisons Department is refusing to comment on reports that Nelson Mandela is about to be released. A prisons official says the department does not comment on what he calls speculations and rumors.

There have been persistent and strong rumors for a week that negotiations are under way for the jailed ANC leader's release once he is discharged from hospital. Mr Mandela is reported to have made good progress after an operation to remove an enlarged prostate gland early this month.

Mr Mandela's wife Winnie and daughter Zinzi visited him in Cape Town's Volks Hospital yesterday. Zinzi Mandela said later the family does not know if Mr Mandela is to be set free and authorities have said nothing about such possibility.

ANC on Conditions for Talks, Mandela Release

MB210837 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0800 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] The ANC has not completely ruled out talks with the South African Government. The banned organization says it is prepared to consider entering negotiations with Pretoria provided certain conditions are met first. Zahed Cachalia has details:

[Begin recording] Stating the conditions conducive to dialogue don't exist at the moment, the ANC has transferred the initiative to President P.W. Botha to create the conditions in which the ANC will consider negotiations. The conditions are the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, the lifting of the state of emergency, the withdrawal of troops and what the ANC calls repressive machinery from the townships, the lifting of the ban on the ANC, and the creation of conditions in which free political activity can take place.

The conditions have reportedly been set out in a formal ANC position on negotiation to be circulated among ANC offices. The position states that if the conditions are met, the ANC would then be prepared to, in its words, go to the people to seek a mandate on holding talks with President P.W. Botha. President Botha has said that the ANC must first renounce violence before talks can be held. [end recording]

Meanwhile the ANC has responded to widespread but unconfirmed reports that Nelson Mandela is about to be released. The ANC says it would find it unacceptable if the jailed leader is released and then immediately flown to a foreign country. More from Howard Barrell:

As speculation mounts that Mandela's release is imminent, ANC official spokesman (Tom Sabena) said from Lusaka this morning that only his unconditional release would be acceptable to the ANC. (Sabena) was asked to respond to a well-sourced *FINANCIAL MAIL* report in October which said the government was considering releasing Mandela and immediately flying him out to a foreign country.

[Begin recording] The ANC rejects that if he is released he must [words indistinct] into South Africa and not into a third country.

[Barrell] In other words, you are saying he must be released unconditionally.

[(Sabena)] The [word indistinct] remains he must be released unconditionally. [end recording]

(Sabena) added that the ANC demanded the unconditional release of not only Mandela but of all political prisoners and detainees.

Boesak Petitions Court To Restore Passport

MB201807 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1635 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, November 20, SAPA — Security police and the minister of home affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, had "taken away my passport to silence my voice as a critic of the present government and its policies," United Democratic Front patron Dr Allan Boesak claimed in papers before the Cape Town Supreme Court today.

He said the security police were "not only actuated by ill-will towards me, but also have used incomplete, incorrect and misleading information of my activities and clearly wish to curtail legitimate criticism of the government".

Dr Boesak is seeking a court order to overturn the "unfair and unlawful" withdrawal of his South African passport on November 4. Respondents are home affairs minister, Mr Botha, and the regional representative of the deparment.

Dr Boesak's attorneys and the state attorneys office agreed to a postponement to December 10. The state attorneys office agreed to make available a record of proceedings at which the decision to withdraw Dr Boesak's passport was taken, including all documents and reasons given.

Dr Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC), said the deprivation of his passport had severely hampered and restricted his work at the church body's leader and was causing "incalculable harm" to him and the WARC. The WARC — second-largest church group in the world — has more than 70 million members in 57 countries.

Dr Boesak attached a schedule of international appointments over the next few months. Today he was supposed to receive the Robert F. Kennedy foundation humanitarian award at a ceremony in Washington.

Recounting events leading to the withdrawal of his passport, Dr Boesak said he faced four charges under Section 54 of the Internal Security Act.

"I intend pleading not guilty to the charges against me, as no act committed by me constituted a contravention of Section 54."

After an application before a Malmesbury magistrate for relaxation of his strict bail conditions was granted, Dr Boesak went to the Bellville police station to obtain his passport. He was informed that a security branch colonel had telephoned to say his passport was being withdrawn. Later that day two men delivered a letter confirming the withdrawal.

"I was taken aback as the minister (of home affairs) could not have had the opportunity to consider the evidence and judgment of the court, which throughly canvassed the question of my passport and related matters.

"The circumstances point to the fact that the decision was taken on the advice of the security branch."

In terms of the constitution, the decision to withdraw a passport resided in the hands of the state president, and the minister of home affairs had no power to withdraw the document, Dr Boesak claimed.

Port Elizabeth Business, Black Groups Meet
MB200603 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] A delegation of the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce has held talks with representatives of several black organizations on the consumer boycott of white shops which was suspended for 2 weeks last week. The director of the chamber, Mr Tony Gilson, told our Port Elizabeth news staff that the area's problems and the black communities' grivances had been discussed at the meeting held in Port Elizabeth.

Meanwhile, it has been announced that the 3-month boycott of white shops at King William's Town has been conditionally suspended. However, the boycott in East London and in Queenstown is still in force. A spokesman for the black consumer organization in King William's Town said the boycott had been suspended pending the lifting of the emergency measures and certain other concessions.

In East London, the city council is to call a special meeting in an effort to end the consumer boycott of black businesses in the city.

In Queenstown, business leaders and representatives of the black boycott action could not come to an agreement. The chairman of the town's Chamber of Commerce, Mr (Dup du Plesses), says at least 30 of the town's approximately 300 small business undertakings have had to close because of the boycott.

Regional Mining Unions To Form Federation
MB201849 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Leaders of mineworkers from five southern African countries have decided to form a regional federation. The leader of the South African delegation and head of the NUM [National Union of Mineworkers], Cyril Ramaphosa, has been elected head of the federation.

Mine Union representatives from Zambia, Botswana, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe were also among those at the meeting in Harare. They have adopted a series of resolutions whereby the new federation will improve working, living, safety, health, and education standards for miners in member countries.

At the meeting, the issue of Pretoria's threat to repatriate foreign mineworkers was discussed. The South African delegation said it would resist this measure, and warned that it will take concerted militant action should the government go ahead with its repatriation policy.

Detainees Allowed To Choose Doctors for Treatment
MB201109 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1107 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 20, SAPA — Political detainees will in future be able to obtain a medical opinion from a doctor of their own choice, other than the district-surgeon, who are members of the Medical Association of South Africa [MASA], according to MASA. In a statement from Pretoria today, MASA said it has negotiated with the government for more than two years on the establishment countrywide of medical panels which would be accessible to detainees.

MASA, a professional body representing about 60 percent of South Africa's 18000 medical practitioners, said there would be a panel in each of its 21 branches. There should be between six and 30 members in each panel.

It was from these panels, MASA said, that "detainees would be able to select a doctor of their own choice if, for some reason or other, they were to request a medical opinion other than that of a district-surgeon."

In the past, district-surgeons have been largely responsible for giving medical attention to detainees, although detainees and their families have often requested the opinion of a private doctor.

MASA said member doctors could apply for appointment to the panels, and that the association would be responsible for their actions in handling detainees.

The names of panel members would be not be publicised, but would be made available on request, MASA said, adding that their names would also be submitted to the Department of National Health and Population Development.

Committee Favors Equal Treatment of Businessmen
MB201508 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The Economic Affairs Committee of the President's Council has recommended equal treatment for businessmen of all population groups, steps to simplify entry into business, and to deregulate businesses.

The committee's Cape Town report on a strategy for small business development and for deregulation recommends that

high priority should be given to economic and employment growth in the formal sector, and that entrepreneurial talent in the informal sector should be nurtured.

The committee also recommends that consideration should be given to the effects which policy measures have on small businesses, that there should be consistent application of minimum restrictions on entry into business, and that there should not be any restrictions based on race or color.

The Economic Affairs Committee says in its report that the deregulation of business activities should begin immediately, with the repeal of amendment of a number of legislative measures. The competitions board should have its powers expanded to coordinate the process of deregulation.

The committee has also recommended that attention be given to the physical planning of Asian, black, and colored towns to encourage healthy business development is those areas.

Draft Bill Allows Permanent Residence for All Races

MB201328 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] All immigrants, irrespective of race or color, will in future be able to apply for permanent residence in South Africa. That is according to a proposed bill published in Cape Town today, which removes all differentiation on the grounds of race or color. According to the bill, Indians, who have in the past been denied permanent residence, can now apply for this privilege. The bill also provided for an amendment to the 1927 act, which bars Indians from living in the Orange Free State and northern Natal.

It states that the movement of Indians into these areas will no longer be arranged by the government. At the moment, a permit is needed for those wanting to spend more than 72 hours in the province. [as heard]

U.S. Shipping Line To Discontinue Direct Sailings

MB201658 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] A leading American shipping line, United States Line, has announced that it is to terminate direct sailing between South Africa and the United States because of a sharp fall in South African imports.

The managing director of the local operation of the line, United States Lines Africa, Mr Derek Shelow, said the decision was taken because of the sharp drop in cargoes from the United States. The last sailing from the United States and South Africa will be on 19th of next month.

However, the company has signed an agreement with South Africa-Europe Container Services, under which cargo to be transported between South Africa and the United States will be transferred to Container Services' vessels in Rotterdam in The Netherlands.

In addition, cargoes from the United States may be carried on the line's round-the-world service. None of the shipping line's conference partners on the American-South African service have decided to curtail their services at this stage.

Heideveld Teachers Refuse To Administer Exams

MB210533 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2129 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 20, SAPA — Twenty-seven teachers at Cathkin Senior Secondary School in Heideveld have branded internal examinations starting at the school tomorrow "a farce." The teachers have refused to administer examinations because the Department of Education and Culture has refused to postpone the exams until March next year, a spokesperson for the group said today.

"The official instruction from the department is that pupils will be tested on the whole years' work when they have covered only half," the spokesperson said. Fifteen other staff members have decided to administer tomorrow's exams. The spokesperson said that after initially treating the 27 "with kid-gloves," inspectors were now pressuring them. They had earlier informed the department that "under present conditions it would be extremely difficult to conduct examinations" and reiterated their plea for a postponement.

On Tuesday an inspector had asked them to sign individual forms noting their refusal but they had referred him to their previous stance. The department had then sent out letters to parents telling them that exams would start tomorrow.

The teachers said that only half the question papers had been prepared and the fact that the department would issue pupils with question papers from other schools "indicates the level to which they will stoop simply to have these exams written." The department's liaison officer, Mr A.J.E. Jordan, has refused to comment "on instructions from higher up."

The staff of Alexander Sinton High School in Athlone have condemned the "harrassment" of teaching staff by department officials because of their decision not to administer exams.

"We have been threatened and intimidated into attempting to start these farcical exams, which even on the admission of a department official is anti-educational," the teachers said.

Police Order Exams Held After Teachers Detained

MB210503 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1949 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 20, SAPA — Police today ordered a principal to continue with examinations after he had received departmental approval for a cancellation following the detention of three teachers in full view of pupils and staff. Teachers said that when staff and pupils arrived at Groenvlei Senior Secondary School in Lansdowne shortly after 8 am, about 15 policemen and 12 soldiers in buffels were already waiting for the teachers.

They were taken to the office of the principal, Mr J. van Wyk, who tried unsuccesfully to dissuade the police from detaining them. Soldiers stood in the corridor and barred their colleagues from approaching the office. With about 235 pupils and 45 teachers watching, the teachers were led to police vehicles. Several parents who had brought their children to school were also present.

"It was a very emotional experience. People kept breaking down and some collapsed. The whole thing was very unpleasant," said one teacher. He said the teachers, one of whom is a chronic asthmatic, knew they would be detained as police had visited their homes several times.

Some parents were so incensed at the detentions that they had taken their children home because "they could not continue under these circumstances".

Because of the traumatic experience, the principal had telephoned the local inspector and obtained permission for the examinations to be cancelled for the day. Shortly afterwards, however, more police arrived.

"When the principal told them of the cancellation, the officer in charge said that what the department said is irrelevent and Mr van Wyk should listen to him or face arrest," said the teacher. Police accompanied pupils into classrooms, held a roll-call and divided them into writing and non-writing groups.

"Some pupils were so petrified that they went along with those who said they would write. They were put in six classrooms under heavy police guard with the rest, about 60, cramped into one stuffy classroom. There were two soldiers with rifles standing guard at the door."

When police demanded that teachers commence with invigilation must of them refused, but, the teacher said, others agreed "because they felt so intimidated".

"They had to stay in the classroom and were not allowed to go to the toilet. No pupils were allowed out and nobody was allowed inside the schoolgrounds while the pupils wrote."

Another teacher said many of the exam scripts were blank, others had only been scribbled on. When the *CAPE TIMES* visited the school, two buffel armoured personnel carriers were parked at the school gate while pupils wrote. Soldiers scanned the surroundings with binoculars while parents waited in the street for the exams to finish. Pupils who had completed their exams were allowed to go home but those who did not write had to wait until all the writing pupils had left. By 2 pm the school was deserted.

The Athlone regional director for the Department of Education and Culture, Dr L. Kathan, referred all enquiries to the department's liaison officer, Mr A.J.E. Jordan. Mr Jordan has already said he could not comment on issues because of instructions "from higher up".

A local police spokesman said: "There is no record of any detentions at the school. Police were called in when teachers prevented pupils from writing examinations. The police officer in charge assured the pupils they had nothing to fear from these teachers."

Students Hold Solidarity Vigils for Detainees

MB210524 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2140 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 20, SAPA — Students held candlelight vigils in solidarity with detainees and those on hunger strikes in ten areas of the peninsula tonight. United Democratic Front [UDF] interim organiser Mr Naseegh Jaffer said the vigils had been organised by UDF area committees and affiliates. In Hanover Street in Walmer Estate over 400 people had gathered in protest, according to one student there.

"This represented over 95 per cent of the young people in the area. We were joined by a group from District Six, and then we walked through the streets and sang freedom songs."

Another student said they were also demanding an end to the state of emergency and a postponement of exams.

"None of the schools in this area have been writing exams," he said.

The vigils started at 8.30 pm and finished at about 10 pm. They were planned to have lasted an hour each. Police were present in Walmer Estate, but did not intervene. A vigil was planned for Wednesday of every week, and each would have a different theme till Christmas, said Mr Jaffer.

Police Report on Unrest Situation, Arrests, Arson

20 Nov Report

MB201843 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1835 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 20, SAPA — Latest police unrest situation report:

A police spokesman in Pretoria said today that the officer compiling the police report on the morning of November 18 overlooked the fact that five bullet-ridden bodies resulting from police action were found in Queenstown on the previous day.

This brought the total number of deaths from police action to 14 and 13 who had sustained injuries.

In Soweto on the Witwatersrand groups of youths set two private vehicles and a delivery vehicles alight, extensively damaging them. Three private vehicles were damaged by stone-throwers and one man was arrested in connection with one of the incidents.

In other incidents in Soweto, a delivery vehicle was robbed of meat and passenger buses were stoned on several occasions.

A Landsdowne in the Western Province, a group of Coloureds erected a barricade in the township. One man was arrested.

In the black township of Robbertson in Boland a group set a delivery vehicle alight. A shot was fired at the police from within the ranks of the mob. Police returned fire with birdshot and arrested 10 men and one black woman. No unjuries were reported.

In Tembisa on the east Rand near Kempton Park, beer cans on a delivery vehicle were punctured by a group of blacks. Police arrested two black males.

In the Umlazi areas near Durban a bus was damaged when set alight by a group of people.

In the black township of Petrusville, in the northern Cape, three black men were arrested after a school was stoned.

In western areas on the West Rand, a group of blacks threw stones at members of the police, slightly injuring one member. The group was dispersed with tearsmoke.

21 Nov Morning Report

MB210716 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0714 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 21, SAPA — The following is the unrest report for the period between 7 pm yesterday and 8 am today, issued by the police directorate of public relations in Pretoria.

The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

At Petrusville in the northern Cape, a black school was stoned. Three black youths were arrested in connection with this incident. At Bekkersdal, near Westonaria, a policeman was slightly injured when policemen were stoned by a large mob of blacks.

At Mohlakena on the West Rand, police discovered the charred body of an unknown black male. In Soweto, classrooms of a black school were damaged by arsonists. In the same area, a motorbike and a number of buses were damaged by stone-throwers and arsonists.

At Zolani black residential area in the Boland, two private homes were petrol-bombed and extensively damaged. In the same area, a number of vehicles were damaged by stone-throwers and arsonists. A resident in one of the houses was slightly injured. Police arrested three black males and a black female in connection with these incidents. At Shoshanguve, near Pretoria, a bus and a private home were slightly damaged when they were stoned and petrol-bombed.

At Bongulethu, near Oudtshoorn, two private homes were petrol-bombed and extensively damaged. A black female at one of these homes was attacked by an axe-wielding mob and seriously injured. A woman was arrested in connection with this incident. At KwaMuzamo, near Humansdorp, in the Eastern Province, a private home was petrol-bombed and extensively damaged.

In Athlone in the Western Cape, a bank was looted and set on fire. Damage was extensive. In the same area, a black male and a black female were arrested for stoning SAP vehicles.

Queenstown 'Commando Unit' Formed

MB201946 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Colored residents at Queenstown in the Eastern Cape are flocking to join a special commando unit being formed to protect members of the community against activists bent on violence. Queenstown has become a focus of unrest in recent weeks, and rioting since the weekend has left 13 people dead and at least 10 injured. The commando unit is being established to counter attacks and violence against the local colored community. The civic leader of the border [Eastern Cape-Transkei border area], Mr Mr Winston Jassan, spoke about the unit.

[Begin Jassan recording] It is not politically motivated. This thing is based on common sense, and we are very, very realistic people. I mean, we cannot sit around here and let our people be burned, murdered, intimidated, and we do nothing. These are ordinary, plain, and simple people, who are being attacked now. And it seems to me that the people who arranged the boycott here in Queenstown do not have any control whatsover over these hordes of murderers and killers. [end recording]

Further on 'Commando Unit'

MB211049 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1044 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Queenstown, Nov 21, SAPA — The vigilante factor in the unrest at Queenstown has taken on a new complexion with the resolution by coloured residents to form a commando unit to protect their properties from attacks they say emanate from the black areas. The decision was taken by several hundred residents, largely supporters of the coloured management committee, at a meeting on Tuesday night which was addressed by a senior police officer. The meeting was called by Mr Winston Jasson, vigilante leader and border regional chairman of the Association of Management committees.

Mr Jasson said in an interview yesterday that coloured vigilante groups which were reported to have clashed with blacks earlier in the week would be retained until the South African Defence Force sanctioned the formation of the proposed commando unit.

The vigilante groups were formed at the weekend after claims that residents from Mlungisi township had fire-bombed homes in the coloured area.

Mr Jasson said a police captain had addressed residents at the meeting on the legality of vigilante groups and what their rights were as residents. He said the management committee needed only 60 men to form the unit but had been approached by more volunteers than they could handle.

Asked for reasons for the apparent tension between his followers and the black community, Mr Jasson said blacks were probably embittered by the fact that Coloureds were not supporting the consumer boycott and that their children were writing exams while pupils in the black areas were boycotting classes. Some people in the coloured areas, he said, also felt bitter because they had lost their jobs as a result of the boycott.

"I feel annoyed because the boycott committee never consulted us. They see us as puppets or stooges of the government — but what have they done for the people?"

"They just want to tell us whehre to shop, and where not to," he said.

Mr Jasson also took a swipe at the United Democratic Front, saying it was "a disruptive factor" and did not enjoy the support of the coloured people of Queenstown.

'Uneasy Lull' in Queenstown

MB211029 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1028 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Queenstown, Nov 21, SAPA — An uneasy lull has returned to Queenstown's township of Mlungisi after four days of violence which, by some accounts, has claimed more than 14 lives. A spokesman for the SA police directorate of public relations today said there had been no reports last night of violence in Mlungisi, nor in the neighbouring coloured area. The coloured area has been the scene of several petrol bomb attacks on homes since the weekend.

The attacks led to the formation of a vigilante group of about 400 young men. The group was referred to as a "commando" by SABC-TV last night. But police questioned about the use of the term today said the group was not a commando. It was a vigilante group guarding the coloured area.

The police spokesman in Pretoria said five bodies with bullet wounds, found during police operations in Queenstown on Sunday, were mistakenly "overlooked" when a report on unrest in the area was compiled on Monday morning. The spokesman said other errors had apparently been made in police reports on unrest in the Queenstown area, compiled by officers at the division. He said the official death toll for the area since Sunday morning was 14.

However, when the five new deaths reported were added to deaths already reported by the division since Sunday, it appeared that 16 people had been killed. The spokesman also said the reported number of people injured since the current unrest broke out in the area stood at 13. When it was pointed out to him, however, that by Monday the police had already reported 14 injuries from the area, he re-checked his figures and acknowledged that 22 people had been injured. This figure included three policemen who had been injured and people injured by rioters, he said.

Explaining the errors apparently made by the division, the spokesman said a report issued by a spokesman for the division on Monday that four more bodies had been taken from a hospital in Queenstown on Monday had been incorrect. Only three bodies had been taken from the hospital, he said. It was also likely that one death had mistakenly been reported twice in reports issued by the division, but the police would look into the matter today, he said. Giving reasons for the division's failure to report the finding of the five bodies on Sunday in an earlier report, he said: "The fact that five bodies with bullet wounds were found during police operations in the black residential area of Queenstown on November 17 was unfortunately overlooked by the officer who compiled the statement at 8 am on November 18 from photostat copies of hand-written reports.

"The mistake was only realised today when typed copies were checked against our daily statements."

It was learned yesterday that the three businesses situated at the southern edge of the white area of Queenstown had been the target of petrol bomb attacks during the weekend.

A personnel manager at the East Cape agricultural cooperative in Dickerson Street said only his general manager could speak to the press, while a manager at Weirs Garage would not discuss the matter. Also attacked were the premises of Queenstown Coal and Wood Distributors in Bells Road.

In all cases, the fires which resulted from the bombings were extinguished before major damage was caused.

In a new development, a public meeting held in the township yesterday afternoon to consider suspending the three-month-old boycott of white businesses — a central issue in the unrest here — ended unceremoniously after it was stormed by what an organiser said were "radicals."

Earlier in the day security forces were out in large numbers forcing residents out of their homes to remove barricades and close trenches dug at the height of the unrest.

A Xhosa-speaking member of the force told residents over a loud-hailer to come out and clear the streets or be made to by force. He also said the boycott had been called off.

A member of the Queenstown Residents Committee, who was given special magisterial permission to hold a public meeting to discuss the boycott, said it was disrupted before a decision was taken on whether or not to suspend it. She said she was in favour of a suspension because she feared white traders were preparing for a backlash.

Mamelodi Residents Stage Work Stayaway

MB211140 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1139 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 21, SAPA — Mamelodi residents staged a total stayaway from work this morning and thousands of elderly people marched to the local administration office in protest against the banning of weekend funerals, the police presence in the township, and high rents. The stayaway, which was initially planned for yesterday, had to be postponed to today so that all residents could be informed about it.

Not a single taxi or bus operated in the township this morning and thousands of commuters were turned back by youths at the two railway stations of Denneboom and Eesterfabrieke from as early as 4:30 am. Scores of youths kept a watch at the two stations and roads leading out of the township. Most of the bus and taxi

drivers were allegedly warned by the residents not to risk their lives by transporting people to work this morning.

School principals in the township were allegedly requested to tell the lower primary pupils and their staff members not to report for school this morning. Thousands of residents gathered at street corners this morning while scores of members of the security forces patrolled the township in casspirs and other vehicles.

The march by the elderly women backed by the youths was supposed to start at 8 am in Mamelodi east and go through Mamelodi west but to avoid clashes with the police, the residents decided to walk in groups of about 10.

Mamelodi Unrest Flares

MB211141 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Unrest has flared in Pretoria's Mamelodi township. Reporters have been told to leave the area by police and details are sketchy. Thousands of people are said to have marched on the mayor's house this morning. In clashes with police at least three people are said to have been shot and killed and several wounded although there has been no police confirmation of this.

Hundreds of police and defense force troops are in the township and a helicopter is hovering overhead. An unknown number of houses are said to have been burnt.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

MB210812 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency and related topics:

In the "Political *BEELD*" column in Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 20 November, columnist Piet Muller asks the question: "Is there light at the end of the tunnel? Or are we hoping so eagerly that there should be light that we are beginning to see light where there is none?" This country, he says, really needs hope, for in the last few years one adversity has followed after another: first the drought, then the disturbances, this latter having dragged on for more than a year. The disturbances led not only to local pessimism, but international pessimism. "In such a climate it is easy for antiapartheid groups and church leaders to make disinvestment a popular subject. The economic propaganda being made at present in the United States by the ANC and church leaders against South Africa can easily take a decade or more to overcome." The columnist says the crisis the country has gone through has, more than anything else, prepared the public for dramatic political changes. Despite overheated black political expectations and confrontation, he says, we cannot wish each other away; we also know we are not a rich country. We will now have to work towards a sober and realistic long-term policy.

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 19 November reports that the government is heading for a confrontation with over 100,000 black rural residents since Constitutional Development Minister Chris Heunis announced that the government is to incorporate the Moutse district, about 100 km northeast of Bronkhorstspruit, into KwaNdebele. The Moutse people are opposed to the move, the report says, and the incorporation would be in contradiction to the government's declared policy of ethnicity, as 90 percent of the Moutse people are Sothos, not Ndebeles. The leaders of the community claim that the government's decision is one-sided and against their wishes.

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 20 November reports on the National Party caucus meeting and says President Botha "said that the meeting was a normal one. It was customary to have the caucus meeting after the provincial congresses and before the advent of the Christmas season." Mr Botha also said "the caucus had not discussed the five recent Parliamentary by-elections, four of which the party won, and one which it lost to the HNP [Herstigte Nasionale Party] in Sasolburg. The caucus was not the forum for this and the matter would be discussed later by the party's executive," the report says.

In the same edition *THE CITIZEN* reports: "Police for the first time this week received complaints about 'kangaroo courts' in the Cape Peninsula and the punishments they prescribed — including 100 sjambok strokes meted out to a pregnant woman." The complaints were filled by two woman who "said in police statements they were sentenced after they forbade their children to take part in school boycotts and unrest violence."

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 20 November reports that the Bophuthatswana government is going to "clamp down on 'foreign' students wanting a place in the homeland's schools." A circular was sent to all schools specifying that "no alien scholars or students will be allowed to enter or stay in Bophuthatswana to study unless he has a valid travel document." The action apparently follow attempts by parents in South African townships to place their children in schools in Bophuthatswana, the article says.

Commenting on the school situation in its editorial in the same edition, the *SOWETAN* says that sending the children away to school is part of the "chicken run" mentality and "there is no point in sending children out of the townships and hoping that the manifold problems surrounding us would disappear." And "as for those leaders in the homelands who are turning away blacks, they will have to answer to serious charges when this country becomes a unitary state, as it must and will be," the editorial says.

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 20 November reports "store owners are experiencing a mini-boom" as black shoppers flocked back to white shops in Port Elizabeth following the temporary lifting of the 4-month boycott. "Most owners report that they have more than doubled their turnovers for the three days since the boycott was lifted on Friday compared with the same time last month."

In another article in the same edition, *THE STAR* reports "the sacking by the coloured Department of Education and Culture of an Elsie's River teacher with 21 years service has sparked fears among teachers that it may be only the first of many dismissals in the wake of the schools boycott." Joe Cloete, who is also

treasurer of the 2,000-strong Western Cape Teachers' [illegible], "has yet to learn the reasons for his sacking, which he believes was politically motivated." Cloete says he took a stand against holding final exams.

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 20 November carries an article by Chris Cairncross on Stuart Sanders, vice chancellor and principal of the University of Cape Town and newly-elected president of the SA Institute of Race Relations. Saunders is "an unequivocal opponent of apartheid and is bluntly critical of the 'lack of vision' displayed by government and the obfuscating manner in which Presidnet P.W. Botha has outlined his perspective of reform." Saunders says the current constitutional framework is "Totally unacceptable" because it entrenches apartheid. He also said the framework "has the potential for creating administrative chaos in the country, particularly dealing with matters like education and health." Referring to the Human Sciences Research Council study on inter-group relations, Saunders says that report "demonstrates that apartheid is patently destructive on inter-group relations and legislation which entrenches discrimination must be withdrawn." Saunders expresses dismay at the violence from both the people and the police, and says the nation desperately needs to "return to the rule of law." He also criticized the closing of Cape colored schools last month and police action in the area. "He believes the educational authorities concerned and the police would materially help to defuse the situation if they determinedly withdrew from using confrontational tactics," Cairncross reports.

ZAMBIA

South African Businessmen Delegation Arrives

MB201924 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] A South African delegation of businessmen let by manager of the international division of South Africa Foreign Trade Organization, David Graham, has arrived in the country. Receiving the delegation at Lusaka International Airport, Lusaka Urban District Governor (Michael Sata), declared that Zambia would like to encourage trade with South Africa, but only if that country dismantles its apartheid policies. Mr (Sata) said the government would not like to see the white South Africans driven into the sea, but would like the racial harmony to prevail in that country. The delegation is in the country for 2 days.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Says ZANU-PF, ZAPU Reports Exchanged

MB201711 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has spoken about the unity talks between the ruling party, ZANU-PF and ZAPU. He told the House of Assembly that although the two sides have agreed on a definite posture, time is not yet opportune to make a public statement. Comrade Mugabe disclosed that reports have been exchanged between the two parties giving areas of agreement and disagreement. He said there would be another meeting to decide whether the talks should continue. The prime minister also revealed that reports so far exchanged are a little more substantial than he could tell the house at present.

He also referred to the critical statements made by Mr Ian Smith during his recent overseas trip. Comrade Mugabe said the governnment is still studying the statements. He said should they constitute a base for prosecution, this will be done. He described Smith as an incorrigible person who should have been hanged long ago had it not been for the government policy of reconciliation.

The prime minister also criticised the human rights group, Amnesty International, for its allegations that dissidents are tortured in Zimbabwe. He described the allegations as a heap of (?lies). He suggested that the organization should perhaps be called Amnesty (?Liars) International.

Asked if the government would consider extending the November 30th deadline when holders of dual citizenship are expected to have renounced one of them, Comrade Mugabe said those affected had enough time to do so. However, the prime minister said if the number of those who require such an extention is large enough, the government is prepared to listen to the masses.

BBC Interviews Nkala on Amnesty International Report

MB200637 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Nov 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Zimbabwe Government and Amnesty International are at loggerheads over Amnesty's claim last week that torture was on the increase in Matabeleland of detainees alleged to support Joshua Nkomo's opposition ZAPU party. There is a heavy army presence in Matabeleland where antigovernment dissidents have been active for the past 5 years. The Zimbabwe Government has challenged Amnesty to go to Zimbabwe and produce witnesses. Amnesty says it is not prepared to name witnesses whose testimony had been given in confidence. Enos Nkala, Zimbabwe's home affairs minister, who has called for the elimination of ZAPU, is in London. Julian Marshall asked him if he couldn't understand Amnesty's point of view if witnesses were living in a climate of fear:

[Begin recording] [Nkala] No, that is a lie. That is what is told in London by idle people who spend most of their time imagining certain things taking place in Matabeleland. I am Ndebele myself. I have the Ndebele cause in my heart. I fought for them during liberation. I fought for all people in our country, irrespective of who they were, and I cannot see myself sitting idle by when anyone of the Ndebeles has been tortured. We will want that Ndebele to come out irrespective of what climate (?is there, but to take place) from London and say I was tortured because he is seeking a redress, he will not get any redress by remaining anonymous — only liars will want to remain anonymous. [Word indistinct] does not hesitate to prosecute any member of the police force who has gone out of his way to torture people in the manner described in the report of Amnesty International.

[Marshall] When you were appointed minister of home affairs, Mr Nkala, there was a lot of speculation that by your appointment, Mr Mugabe was really signaling that he meant business with ZAPU and with Mr Joshua Nkomo. It was alleged, perhaps inaccurately, that you as an individual had a personal hatred for Mr Nkomo and that you would go out of your way [Nkala laughs] to make certain that he was removed from the political scene.

[Nkala] This is what people in London, you know, academics and journalists and those who are anti-Zimbabwe, placed their speculations. Firstly, I want to say I am a man of no nonsense, I (?take) no nonsense from anybody. I have no time to discuss speculations and so for having said that, I want also to say I hate nobody. I mantain no grudge against anybody. I may disagree with you, I may disagree with your views, I may disagree with your mode of leadership and so forth, but that is not a ground for me to hate you. I have no hatred against Comrade Nkomo. On the contrary, we always meet, he comes to my house, we have lunch together, we disagree. I disagree with his mode of politics, I disagree with his leadership. I don't think I would ever follow him. I was his follower, I was his lieutenant at one stage, and when he did certain things that I did not like, I disagreed with him, I left him. Many others including the prime minister. [sentence as heard] I don't think I should be held for having left, for disagreeing with Nkomo and that should be held as a ground for hatred. Why should I hate my compatriot? I am Ndebele, he is Ndebele.

[Marshall] But you still have used some pretty strong language. Let us (?proceed), shall we, about the need to eliminate ZAPU, threatening to eliminate ZAPU — pretty strong language, Minister.

[Nkala] Yes, ZAPU is not Nkomo; let's get that clear. ZAPU is not Nkomo. Nkomo is not ZAPU. And if Nkomo in ZAPU does certain things as an individual which are wrong, I will single him out. If ZAPU as an organization does certain things that are wrong, I will single out ZAPU. I think my view is that ZAPU has no role to play, no positive role. It has lost two elections, it has sponsored dissidents, it has caused suffering among the Ndebeles and if one is to remove the suffering from the Ndebeles, and I have been subjected to it, one has to place ZAPU in a place where it cannot continue to play with sufferings on Ndebele.

[Marshall] But words like eliminate raise the political temperature, doesn't it.

[Nkala] Yes. It doesn't matter. I am a politician, I am entitled to use any words I please. If anyone reads a sinister meaning from that, he is entitled to it, it is not my role to go and correct him. People who want to...

[Marshall, interrupting] There is no two ways about interpreting eliminate. I mean, it means do away with, doesn't it?

[Nkala] Well, journalists are entitled to interpret it any way they like, but my view is that we can eliminate ZAPU by absorbing it, we can eliminate those evil aspects of ZAPU by making it behave properly. [end recording]

Police Arrest Bulawayo Councillor; 2 Others Missing

MB210817 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Police in Zimbabwe have arrested a councillor from the southern city of Bulawayo. A government spokesman has named him as Mr (Nelson Sidanile) and said he was expected to appear in court soon. Political sources in Bulawayo say two other councillors are missing.

Earlier this year, Zimbabwean police arrested several Bulawayo councillors, most of them members of the opposition ZAPU party, on allegations of supporting rebels active in the Matabeleland Province. All of them were later released.